## INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION Public Hearing - Public Comment Session Regarding the Awarding of a Riverboat Owner License

in Dearborn, Ohio, and Switzerland Counties Ogle Haus Inn, Vevay, Indiana Thursday, April 27, 1995

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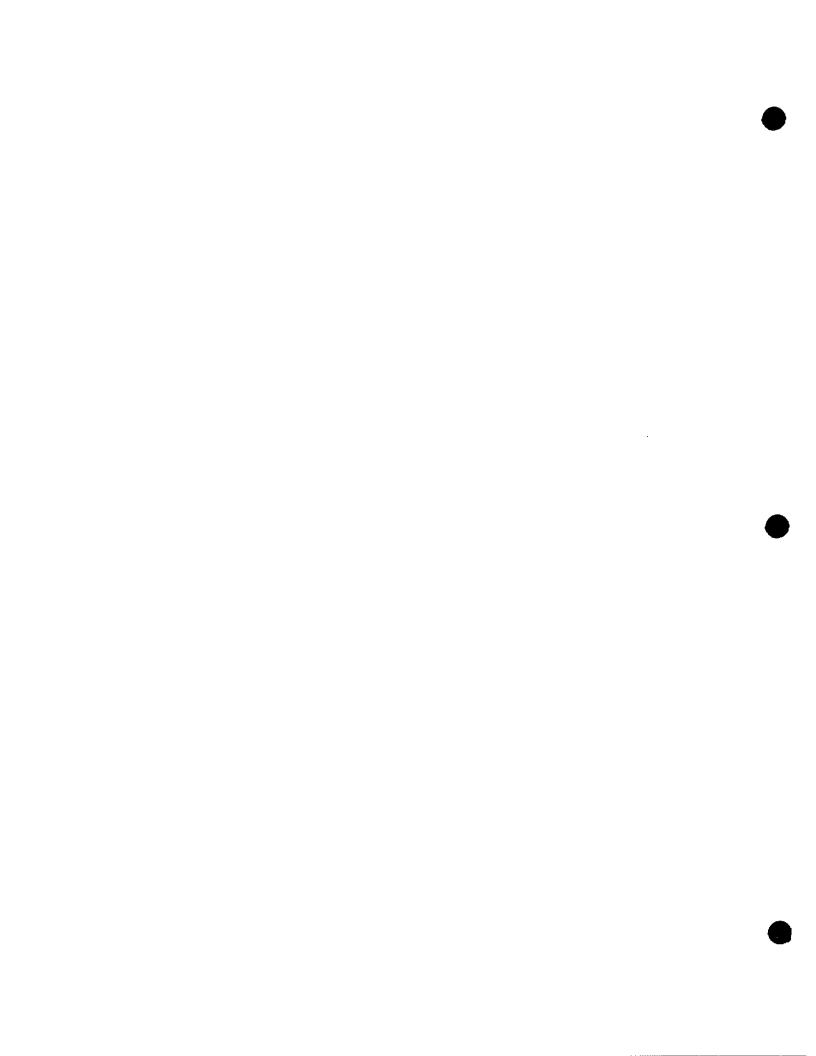
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2	PUBLIC HEARING PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION
3	REGARDING THE AWARDING OF A RIVERBOAT OWNER LICENSE
4	BEFORE THE INDIANA GAMING COMMISSION
5	Thursday, April 27, 1995, 8:20 a.m.
6	The Ogle Haus Inn, Vevay, Indiana

CHAIRMAN ALAN KINEMAN: We'll go straight into the public portion. Before we get started, as you probably all know, the Commission had made it a practice to come to the areas and to view the sites where we are anticipating granting licenses and we're very, very happy to be down here in the southeastern corner of Indiana and to meet all of you and to give you an opportunity to address this commission. When we first started, it would have been very easy to sit in Indianapolis the whole time and have people come to us, but we thought it was important to make these trips and we have in every instance gone out to the areas and had public comment concerning our activities and the applicants and also to view the sites. It gives this Commission a much better grasp of



the problems and the things that need to be done if we come out to these areas, so it is not convenient, basically, to come, but we think it's important and that's why we're here. exciting, the amount of public activity and participation that has been shown in this area of the state and we certainly appreciate it. have, as you probably know from viewing our list, which is posted outside the room, we really have quite a massive list of people who wish to address this Commission and we intend to hear indicated everyone; however, as our information sheet, we have asked that people who address the Commission limit their comments to five minutes. Now, the Commissioners from time to time have questions of one or more of the presenters and that will not detract from the five minutes that you have to talk. That will be in addition to the five minutes. In other words, we're not going to start asking questions and ruin your whole presentation. we will have a system which is just being devised Since we don't have a trap door to spring when people extend their time, we have developed

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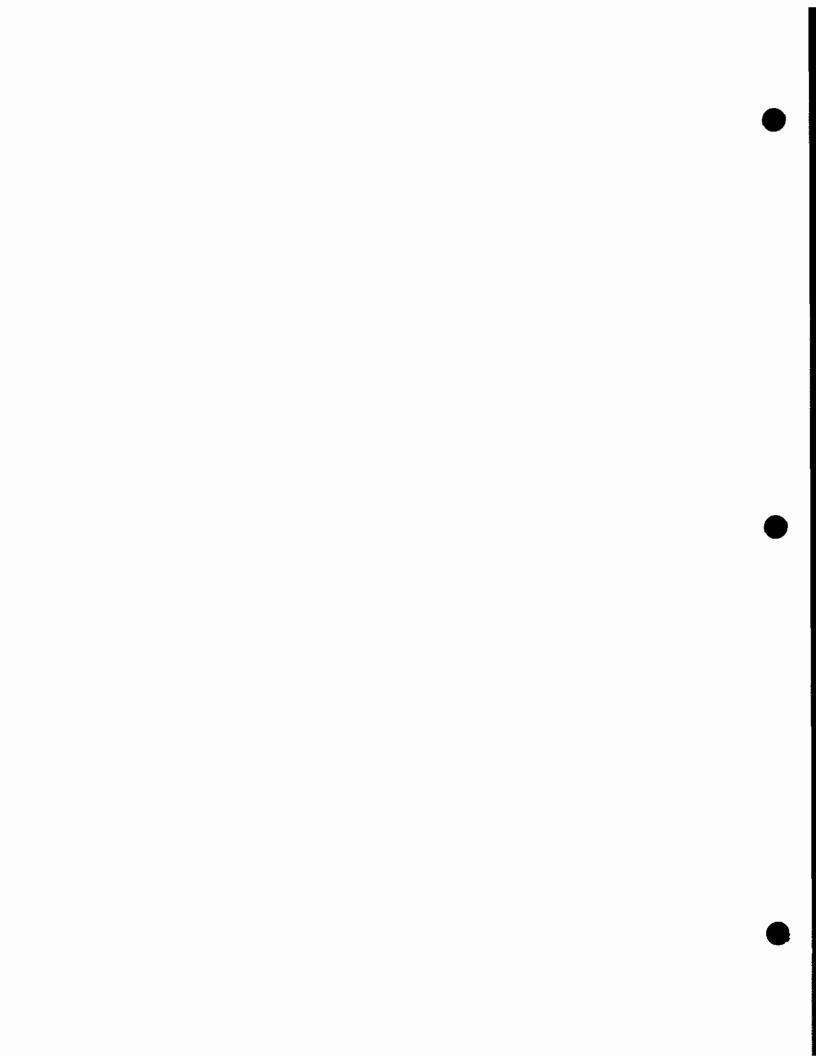
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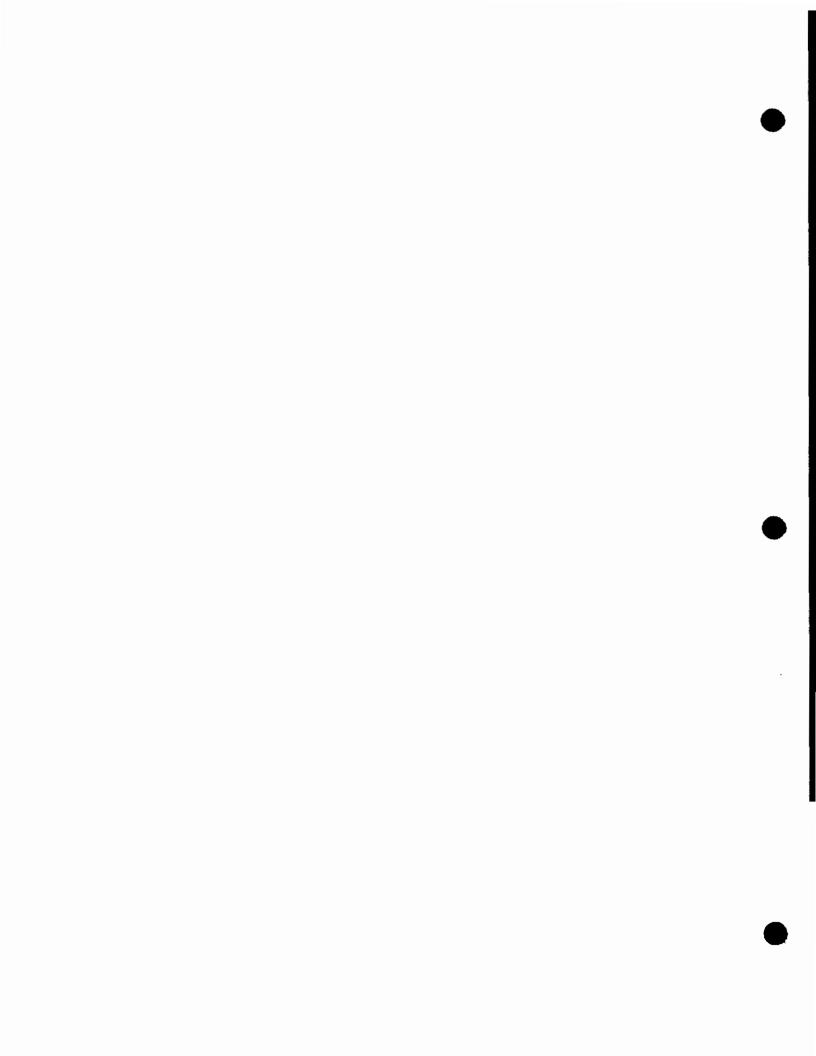
a system where we have a couple of colors. After 1 you've gone four minutes, you will be shown a 2 yellow card, which would mean it's time to start 3 to the conclusion area and then final, I say, and 4 then we have the red for the stop. So, uh, we 5 don't expect anyone to stop in the middle of a 6 word, but we do try, hopefully, to adhere to our 7 8 schedule so it will enable us to hear everyone and it will enable us not to wear out completely 9 10 with the list that we've got to go. those few ground rules, we're ready to commence 11 and I think Mike Jones wishes to address the 12 13 Commission first.

14 MIKE JONES: My name is Mike Jones, 501 Hill 15 Road, Florence, Indiana. I am President of the Switzerland And Chairman Kineman, Members of the County Council. 16 Indiana Gaming Commission, Executive Director and staff, 17 members of the press, gaming applicants and neighbors from 18 Dearborn and Ohio Counties, on behalf of the people of 19 Switzerland County, I wish to welcome you to the Town of 20 21 Vevay and to Switzerland County.

We in Southeastern Indiana have eagerly awaited this first day of hearings and welcome our opportunity to appear before the Gaming Commission. We sincerely hope that each of you will enjoy your visit to Switzerland



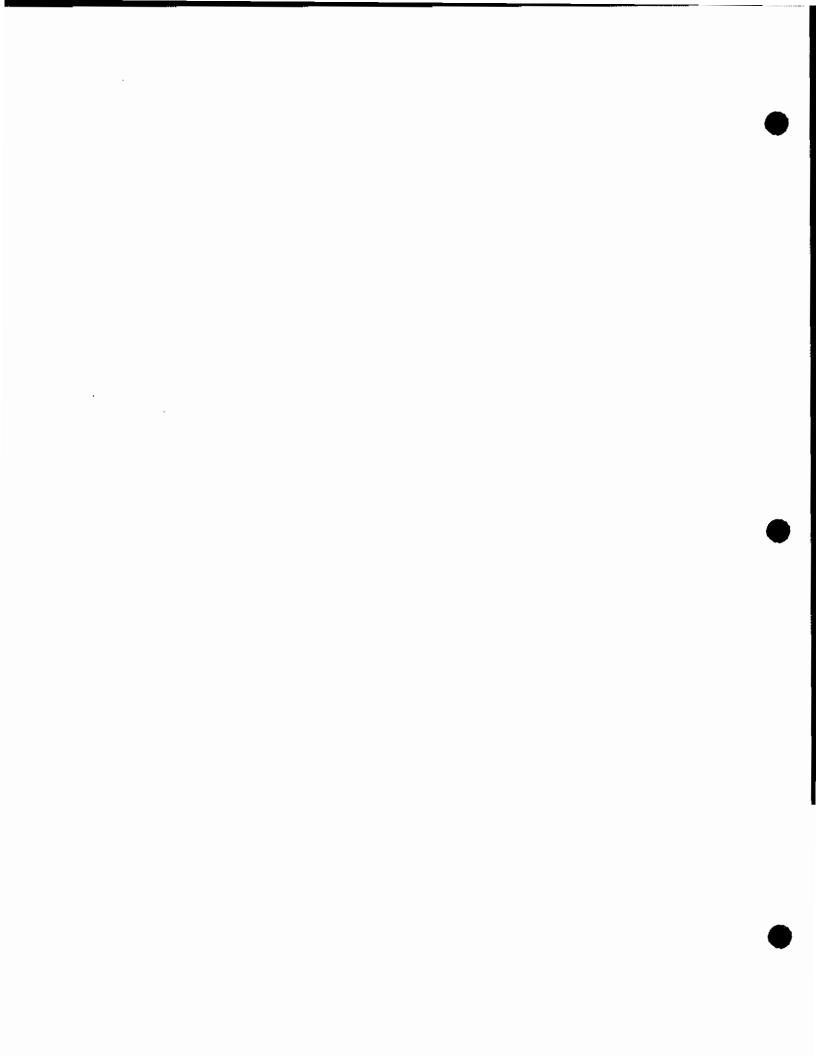
- 1 County and that you will truly experience firsthand a taste
- 2 of Southern Indiana hospitality. Thank you and welcome.
- 3 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. The first item on
- 4 our agenda is the Switzerland Coalition on
- 5 Riverboat Excellency - Excellence, which is
- 6 SCORE, and they had a number of people and they
- 7 requested that they be combined for a forty-five
- 8 minute presentation. We are, I guess, going to
- 9 hear now from the, uh - the first one listed
- on my list is Anita Danner on tourism. If the
- ll order is not correct, you can just start right
- 12 off and -
- 13 (Laughter)
- 14 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: You don't look like Anita
- Danner.
- 16 THOMAS CONROY: Thomas Conroy, 14 Swiss Avenue,
- 17 Vevay, Indiana. In front of you, there is a booklet that
- 18 we had printed up that you could follow through here and
- 19 take some notes, if you wish.
- 20 On behalf of the Switzerland Coalition on
- 21 Riverboat Excellence, we would like to welcome the
- 22 Commission and staff to historic Switzerland County for
- 23 today's riverboat gaming hearings. SCORE also extends it's
- 24 welcome to our neighbors in Ohio and Dearborn Counties and
- 25 looks forward to participating in what will surely be a



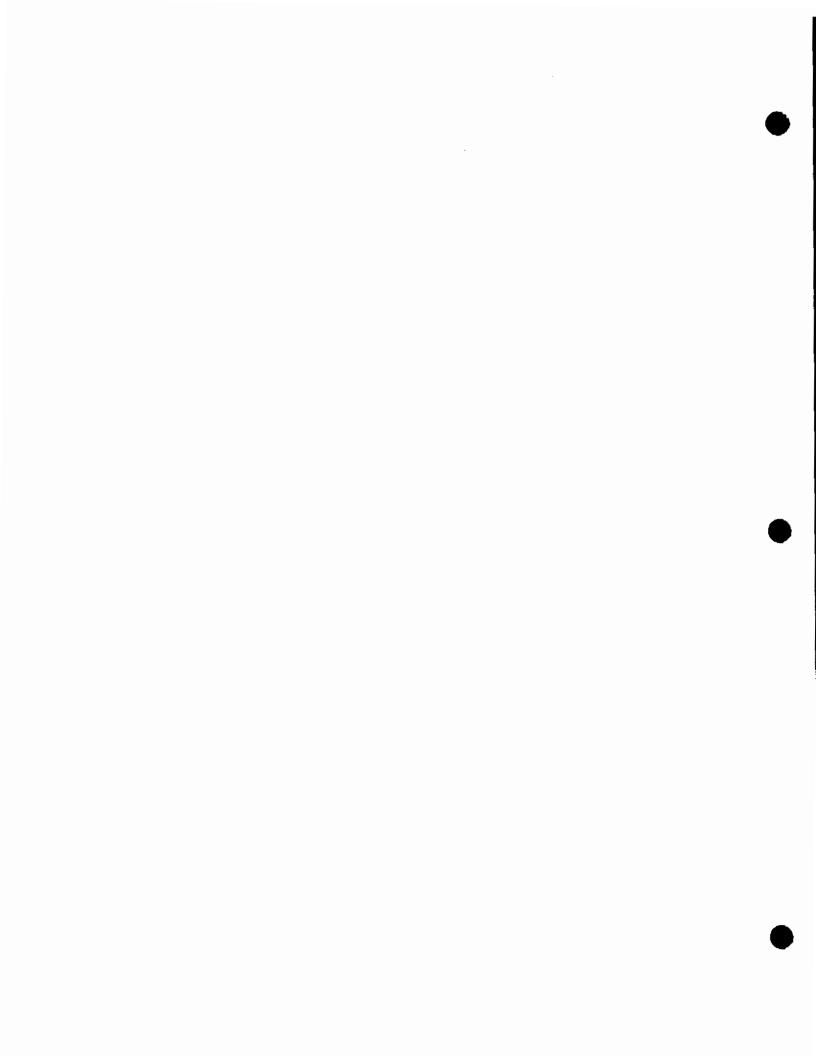
- 1 very informative and productive set of hearings.
- We now have a short video to kind of introduce
- 3 you to Switzerland and Switzerland County and Vevay.
- 4 (A video was shown)
- 5 THOMAS CONROY: When the State Legislature first
- 6 passed the bill allowing riverboat gaming, I was on the
- 7 Vevay Town Council. I immediately called the State House
- 8 for a copy of the statute. The new legislation did not
- 9 take into consideration that Switzerland County did not
- 10 have a city, much less a city on the Ohio River. We also
- 11 ran into several other small problems that needed to be
- 12 addressed. We hired an attorney and went to work at once.
- 13 Everyone we turned to said that we did not have
- 14 a chance. The most encouraging thing that we were told was
- 15 that Switzerland County was a long shot.
- Well, that was two years ago and here we are
- 17 today at the public hearings in Switzerland County with a
- 18 top notch company, Pinnacle; James Forbes, a top notch
- 19 manager, an excellent site, plenty of room to cruise in
- 20 Ohio - in Indiana waters in the Ohio River, and a group
- 21 of citizens who can see this through so that the operation
- 22 will make money for the state, Switzerland County, and,
- 23 through revenue sharing, the seven surrounding counties.
- 24 And now, onto our first speaker.
- 25 ANITA DANNER: Good morning and welcome to

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- 1 Southern Indiana and the warm hospitality of the Ohio
- 2 River. I'm Anita Danner, number 6 Riverview, Vevay,
- 3 Indiana.
- 4 My husband, Mike, and I own and operate the
- 5 oldest continually operating business on the original site
- 6 in the State of Indiana. It dates back to 1837. Only
- 7 occasionally do we feel like that we've been there that
- 8 long. It was the original store referred to in the video.
- 9 It is the U.P. Shank Store. So Vevay has longevity, Vevay
- 10 has stability and Vevay has people that believe in Vevay,
- 11 Switzerland County.
- In addition to being creative retailers, I am
- 13 also on the Tourism Commission. Now, that's the
- 14 Recreation, Convention and Tourism Commission, but we call
- 15 it the Tourism Commission. Later on this morning, you're
- 16 going to hear from Prestine Chapman, who is the Executive
- 17 Director of our Welcome Center. She's going to give you
- 18 specifics as to what this commission has done since it was
- 19 formed three years ago. I'm not going to give you handouts
- 20 or specifics, but she will, so there's more to come about
- 21 tourism.
- 22 The reason why the Tourism Commission was founded
- 23 three years ago was that we did not want to wait in
- 24 Switzerland County for somebody to do something for us. We
- 25 saw a need and we wanted to take care of ourselves as



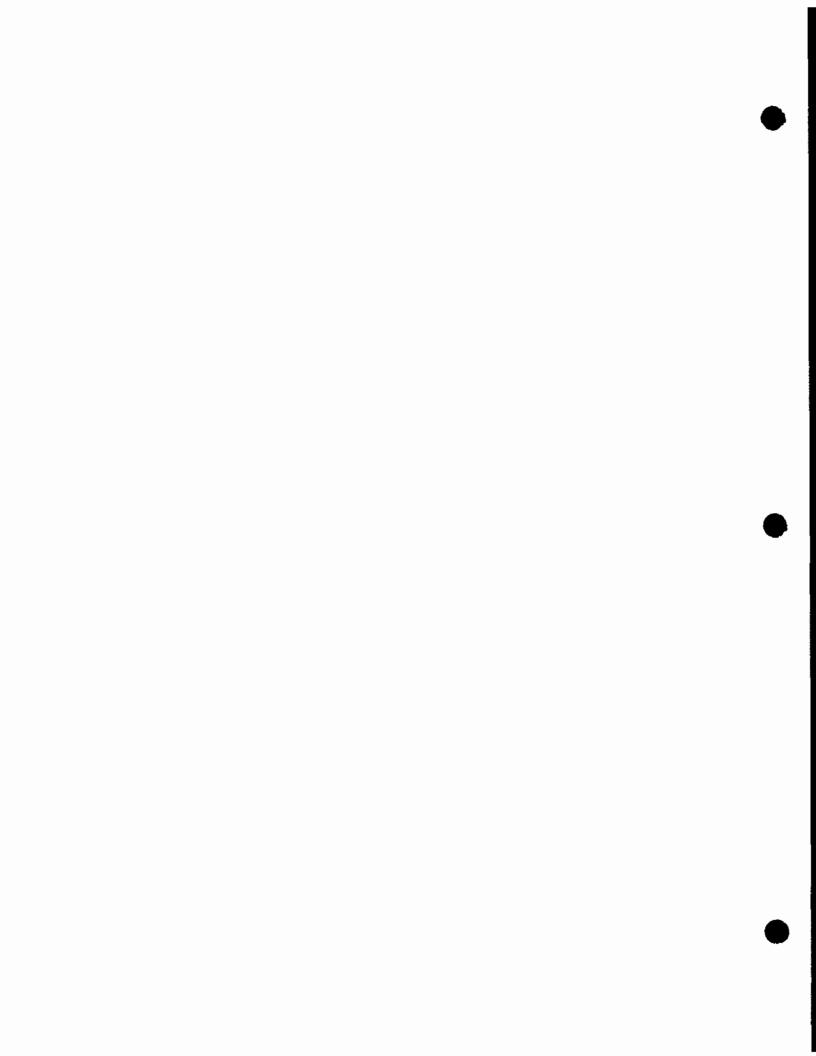
- 1 quickly as we could.
- 2 The Tourism Commission gets its revenue from
- 3 overnight guests here at the Ogle Haus, so you contributed
- 4 last night. We also get revenue from a Bed & Breakfast
- 5 that's in operation and there will be a new Bed & Breakfast
- 6 opening up this summer, so there's more revenue being
- 7 generated all the time. And you will also find how busy
- 8 the Ogle Haus is. So we do have money to spend. That
- 9 money is turned around to tell others about Indiana's best
- 10 kept secret, which is Vevay, Switzerland County.
- 11 We invite people to come here to rest, to
- 12 recreate, just to enjoy. We have very few heart attacks
- 13 here, so it's a wonderful place. You probably need to come
- 14 back here after you've finished your job on this
- 15 Commission, because we could do alot for you.
- 16 The Commission has advertised in Kentucky,
- 17 Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, and our visitor's log attests to
- 18 the fact that people do come with us. There was a bus that
- 19 just pulled up behind you you didn't see that but
- 20 there was a bus tour from Chicago that spend the night here
- 21 last night and was in Switzerland County. So we are
- 22 drawing people here. We can accomodate them. There are
- 23 lots of things for them to do and they go away very happy,
- 24 which is a good thing that we want to share with other
- 25 people, that Indiana is a wonderful place to be.



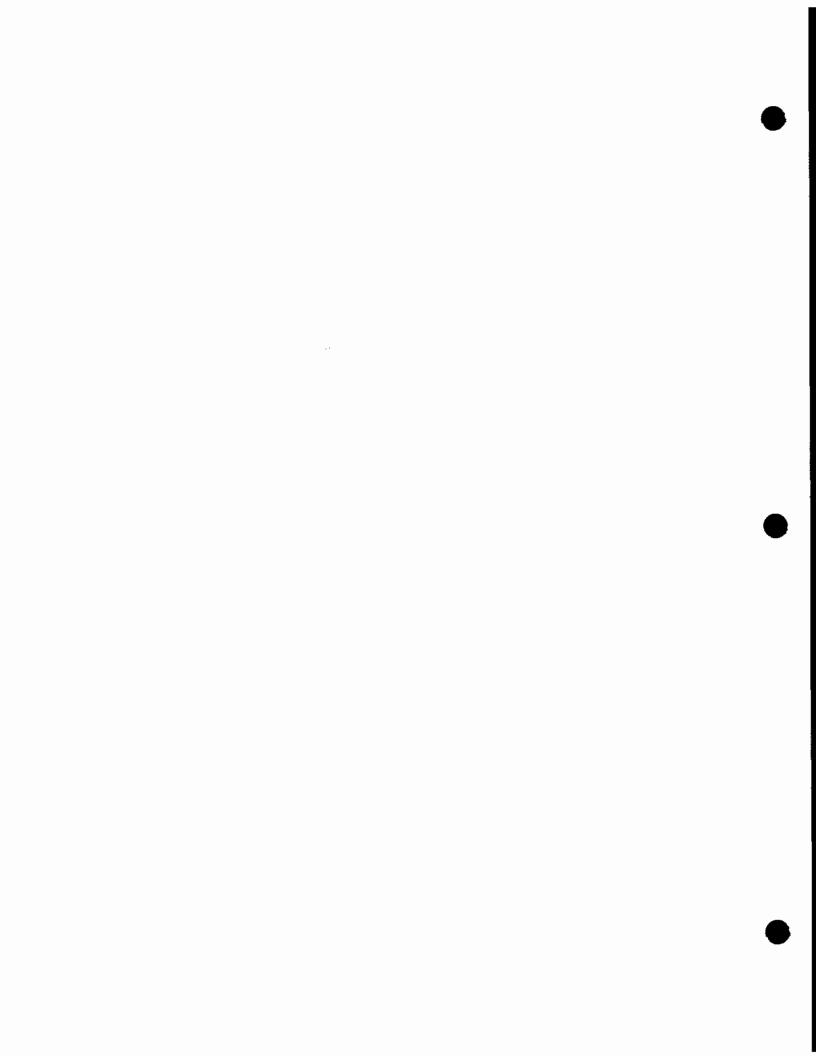
1 So what I've said to you so far is that our 2 Tourism Commission is very active, it's doing things. 3 are helping ourselves to help the merchants in Vevay, Switzerland County, to generate some of our own finances. 4 The other thing that I want to talk about is when 5 6 the boat comes, what happens with the Tourism Commission. Well, first of all, we would generate more money to do more 7 things for Vevay, Switzerland County, because we would get 8 revenue from each person that goes upon the boat. We will 9 have a welcome center at the boat landing, so that we can 10 11 come in contact with each of the - - uh, person that gets on the boat or gets off the boat. We will be providing 12 shuttle services, so that they can come into Vevay and shop 13 There will be bus tours, so that at the local merchants. 14 you could go out in the county and tour things, like round 15 How many of you have seen a round barn? How many 16 All of those things are 17 of you have seen a hay press? 18 available here. Maybe some of you don't want to know about 19 that. Well, you don't have to go, but it's available. 20 But it's not just - - We don't want people just 21 to come to Vevay, Switzerland County, and think that all 22 there is to do is to get on a boat. We want them to do that, but there's lots of other things, too. And that's 23 the job of the Tourism Commission to provide family 24

recreation or even senior citizen recreation, too, so that

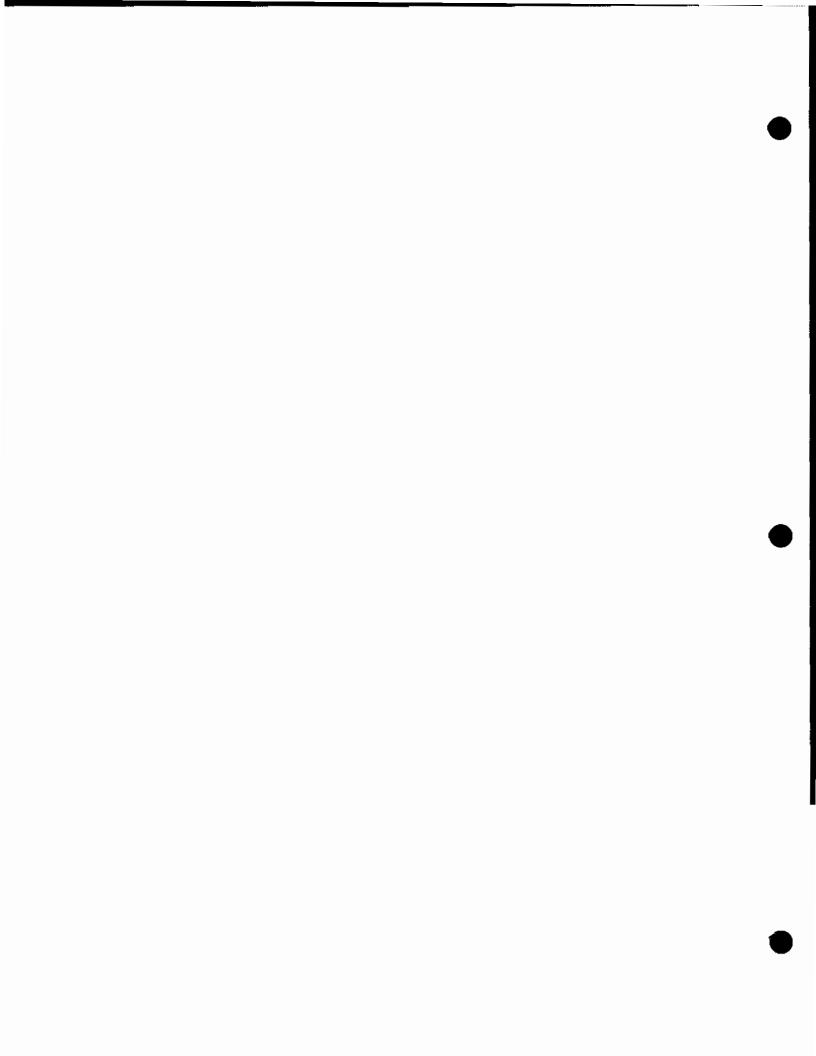
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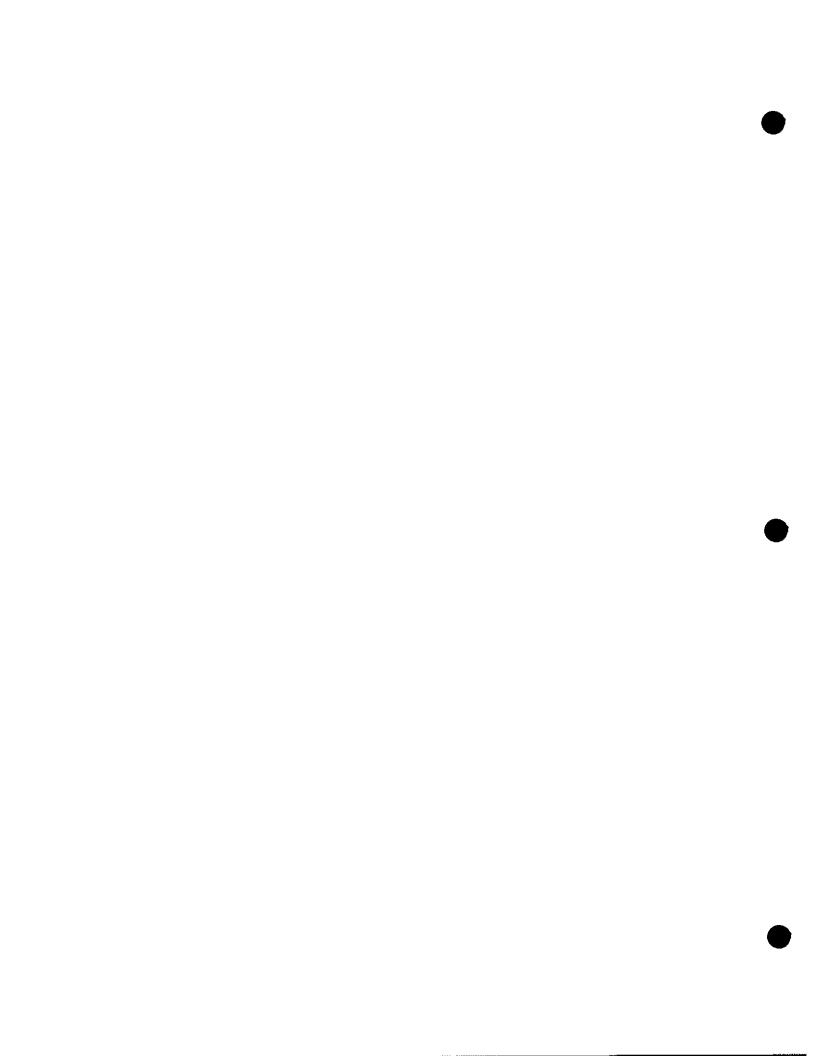
- 1 they enjoy themselves and they want to come back.
- That also leads me to part of my discussion is,
- 3 what if the boat leaves? There's no guarantee that these
- 4 things are going to last forever. So what happens if they
- 5 leave? Well, we still have a very active, forceful tourism
- 6 committee, who will continue to talk to others about Vevay,
- 7 Switzerland County. We will continue to invite people
- 8 here. We will also have revenue put back from the time
- 9 that the boat was here. So I see no problem with the
- 10 Tourism Commission now, when the boat comes, and if the
- 11 boat should leave.
- 12 I thank you for your time, I thank you for your
- 13 patience. And I know that you are going to have some extra
- 14 time today and tomorrow. I expect to see you on the
- 15 streets of Vevay shopping and we would gladly take care of
- 16 you. Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Excuse us. Mrs. Danner, I
- think we have a question.
- 19 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: I just have one. The
- 20 commission that you're with, is that Vevay or the
- 21 county?
- MRS. DANNER: It's the Recreation, Convention and
- 23 Tourism Bureau of Switzerland County.
- 24 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Any other questions? Thank
- 25 you.



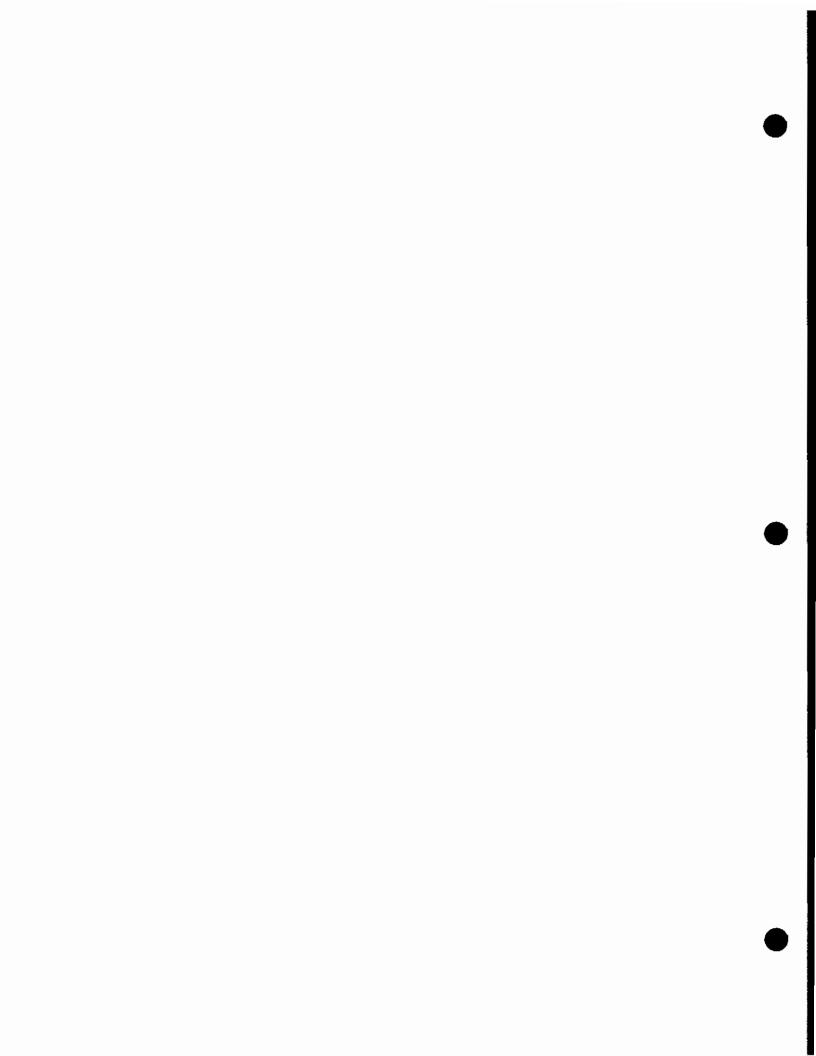
- 1 JOHN JOHNSON: Good morning and welcome to Vevay.
- 2 I'm John Johnson. I'm Sheriff of Switzerland County.
- 3 Prior to being Sheriff, I served twenty-one years with the
- 4 Indiana State Police, a career that was all served here in
- 5 Switzerland County.
- 6 I'm originally from Bartholomew County, which is
- 7 a flat, farming area. I came here; the hills, the river,
- 8 it all intrigued me. I loved it and I stayed. I made my
- 9 home here.
- The twenty-one years that I stayed with the State
- 11 Police here, I saw pre- and post-1978, which was when the
- 12 bridge was built, in 1978. Prior to 1978, the population
- 13 of this county was somewhere around fifty-five hundred
- 14 people. The traffic was sparse. I had a hard time getting
- 15 my activity that I was required to get. (Laughter)
- 16 However, I stayed here, I tried to do the best I could -
- 17 (Laughter)
- 18 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We've all met alot of people
- who were trying to do the best they could.
- 20 (Laughter)
- 21 JOHN JOHNSON: I've also seen - I've also
- 22 seen the economics of this county change since the bridge.
- 23 The bridge has brought alot to us and we have gotten to go
- 24 to alot of other things that the bridge opened up to us.
- We have two hundred and twenty-one square miles



- 1 in this county and every bit of it I've been over many
- 2 times in that twenty-one years.
- 3 I've also seen the need for extra police. I've
- 4 seen the need for extra law enforcement. I've seen the
- 5 need develop since the bridge and, especially in the last
- 6 three to five years, the influx of people.
- 7 I want to talk to you a little bit about the
- 8 preparedness that we have, a plan on paper. The three
- 9 basic services that government should provide to their
- 10 citizens is fire, EMS service, and police.
- The EMS service, I've seen in twenty-one years,
- 12 go from a 1957 Cadillac station wagon, that when they'd
- 13 arrive on the scene of an accident, throw them on a
- 14 stretcher, slam them in the back of it, and haul them off
- 15 to the hospital. I've seen the EMS come from that to the
- 16 equipment they have now, the training they have now, the
- 17 EMT's, paramedics.
- I've seen the fire departments go from old
- 19 pumpers, old equipment, to, I think there are five now in
- 20 the county and three new fire departments that have been
- 21 built in the last few years.
- The preparedness program that I've got includes
- 23 a mutual aid program that will include the surrounding
- 24 counties, Ohio County, Ripley County and Jefferson County,
- 25 also from across the river, Carroll County and Gallatin



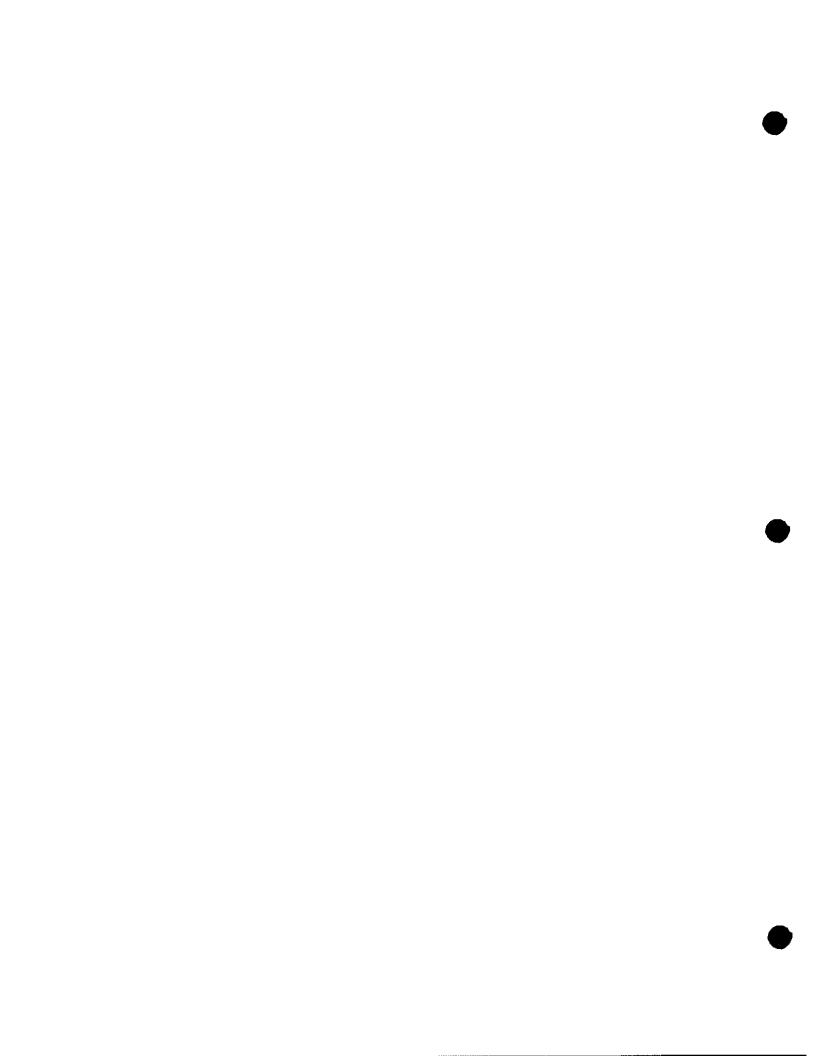
- 1 County.
- Several years back, we had a brush fire in this
- 3 county that some may recall we made the Indianapolis
- 4 Star on this one burnt about a thousand acres of this
- 5 county. We had fire departments come into this county from
- 6 Carrollton, Kentucky, Warsaw, as far north as Batesville,
- 7 Lawrenceburg, Jefferson County. There were many, many
- 8 people that came in here to co-op to fight this fire. This
- 9 is the type of thing, should an emergency occur, that we
- 10 will have a plan and we will be prepared for that.
- The professional development that I am going to
- 12 require from my people is, of course I'm going to have to
- 13 have additional people. That's going to be required.
- 14 There's no way around that, because of the population
- 15 growth, because of the tourists that are going to be coming
- 16 here, the increased traffic. We're going to have to have
- 17 alot of training to respond to calls. Speaking of the
- 18 training, I'm requiring my people to have some of the best
- 19 training that they can possibly get. Even the volunteers,
- 20 the reserve deputies that I have, I'm requiring them to
- 21 take certain training before I allow them to work.
- I have this plan on paper. I've got this plan
- 23 for the personnel, I have a plan for the equipment, I have
- 24 the plans for the procedures and the regulations to go
- 25 along with this. There will be a control.



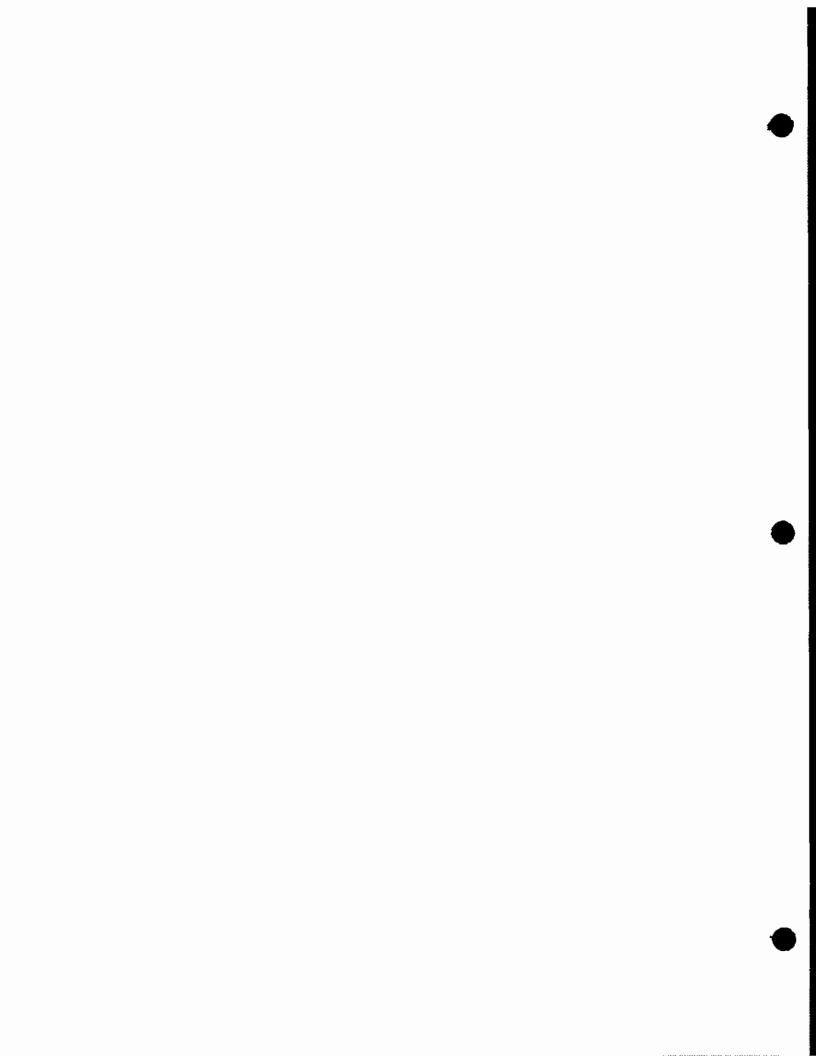
- 1 Ladies and gentlemen of the Commission, we are
- 2 ready, on paper, as you will see at your meeting the 15th
- 3 of May, I believe, you will be getting a copy of this. We
- 4 are ready to implement any action necessary for any growth
- 5 situation, should it be industrial, recreational, or
- 6 tourism. Ladies and gentlemen, I submit to you that we in
- 7 Switzerland County are prepared. Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you, Sheriff. Any
- 9 questions? Good morning.
- 10 HANK McLAIN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Members
- 11 of the Commission. Hank McLain, 306 West Market Street,
- 12 Vevay, Indiana. I'm President of the Vevay Historic Review
- 13 Board.
- In Easter of 1986, my wife, Barbara, and I made
- 15 our first trip to Vevay. We were taking one of those long
- 16 weekend vacations to Southern Indiana from our home in
- 17 Anderson. While slowly driving down Market Street and
- 18 admiring the houses, I spotted a guy carrying a ladder.
- 19 That's always too good for an old house person to pass, so
- 20 I stopped and asked one of those questions that opens
- 21 things up. We ended up touring three fantastic houses, all
- 22 in need of care.
- 23 Well, again on Easter, back in 1992, Barbara and
- 24 I were staying here at the Ogle Haus, another one of those
- 25 long weekends. While again going down Market Street, we

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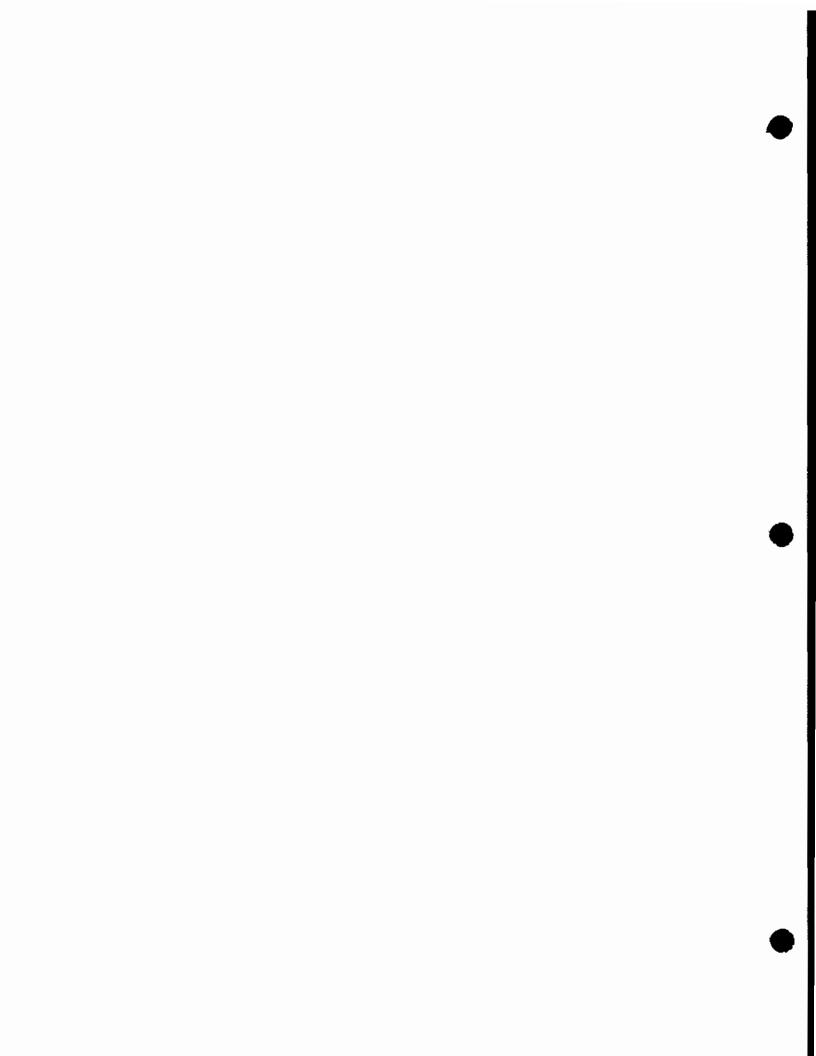
- l spotted a sign in a window, Historic House For Sale. It
- 2 was the home that we'd been so smitten by back on that
- 3 other Easter in 1986. Fate or whatever drove us and on
- 4 June 19th we signed the final papers for the house at 306
- 5 and it's neighbor, 304, a package deal. We now had two
- 6 houses with years of neglect, but all the extrinsic and
- 7 intrinsic values that any preservationist could ever want.
- 8 Why did we choose Vevay? Location. A wonderful
- 9 setting on the river bypassed by urban renewal. A quick
- 10 trip across the bridge at Markland, we're an hour from
- ll Cincinnati, an hour from Louisville, two hours from
- 12 Lexington, or back here, if I go north, I'm two hours from
- 13 Indianapolis. The symphony, the operas, the theater, the
- 14 fine restaurants, book stores, all the amenities of a large
- 15 urban area without the problems.
- We're really lucky in Vevay, in that we have the
- 17 things that preservation tourism touts - a place of
- 18 tranquility, a place to escape the ordinary, a slower paced
- 19 lifestyle. I feel as if I live at the summit and have the
- 20 world at my feet here. Vevay is a natural treasure in a
- 21 benign setting.
- 22 According to the Switzerland County report of the
- 23 Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, Vevay has
- 24 over three hundred structures that were built prior to
- 25 1900. Recognizing that preservation is an effective tool



- 1 for managing growth, for revitalizing towns, to help
- 2 maintain community character and to foster local pride, a
- 3 group of the people on Market Street, working with other
- 4 residents of Vevay, began discussions with the Town Board
- 5 about historic preservation in Vevay. After public
- 6 meetings and working with the Historic Landmarks of
- 7 Indiana, the Vevay Town Board passed a historic
- 8 preservation ordinance. We've been working, recognizing
- 9 sites since that time, and under the historic - or the -
- 10 pardon me - under the Vevay Historic Review Board.
- In the past few years, a third of the houses on
- 12 Market Street have undergone extensive renovation. We, at
- 13 present, have a large 1881 Italianate overlooking the river
- 14 that will have an adaptive reuse, opening this year as a B
- 15 & B, even as restoration continues.
- John Ruskin, the nineteenth century English
- 17 artist-writer-critic, wrote: Great nations write their
- 18 autobiographies in three manuscripts, the book of their
- 19 deeds, the book of their words, and the book of their art.
- 20 Not one of these books can be understood unless we read the
- 21 two others. But of the three, the only trustworthy one is
- 22 the last.
- 23 Preservation helps us not only to remember what
- 24 we were, it helps us to understand who we are.
- 25 Preservation really means we hang onto something because

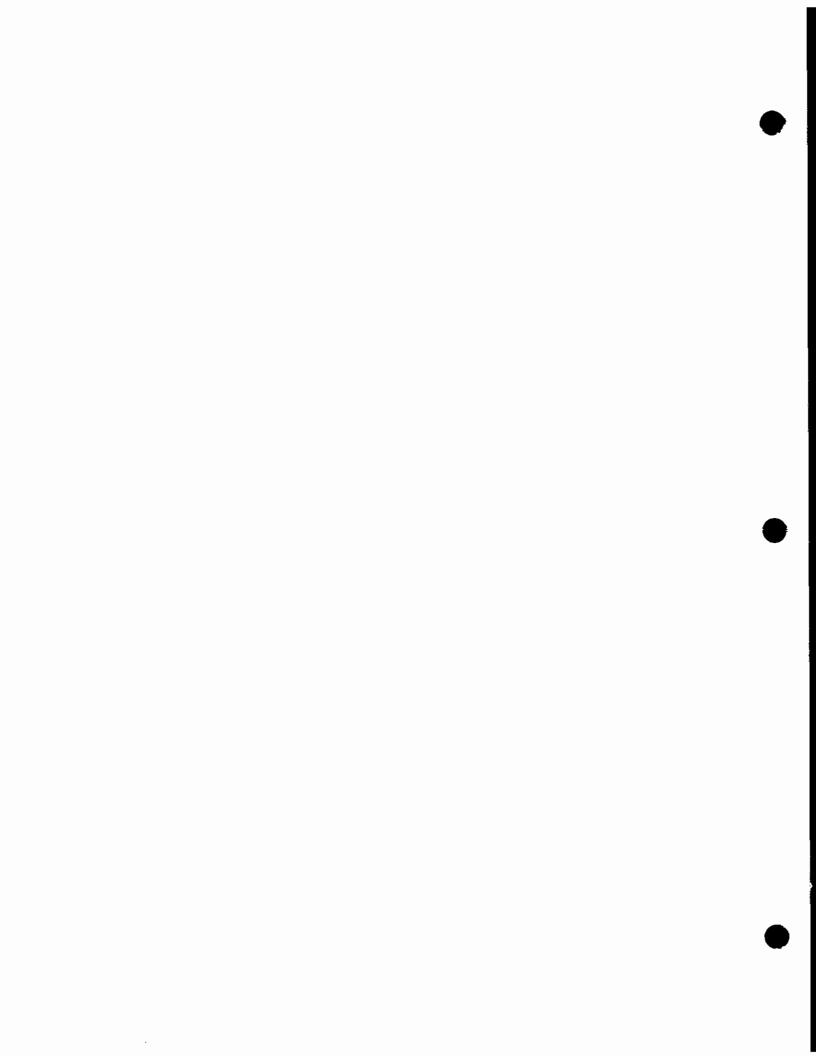


- 1 it's good to look at, it works, and because it's a link to
- 2 a past that we need to remember.
- 3 In Vevay, we need not only to remember the town,
- 4 but the river. It links us to our past. It brought us our
- 5 past and now the river can help bring us our future. Thank
- 6 you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 8 QUESTION BY ANN BOCHNOWSKI: I do have a
- 9 question.
- MR. McLAIN: Yeah?
- MS. BOCHNOWSKI: Since you're so - you seem to
- 12 enjoy the fact that this has been - this town
- has been bypassed by development, doesn't it
- 14 concern you about what a riverboat operation
- 15 would do to the town?
- 16 MR. McLAIN: No. Why? I'm a realist. We have
- 17 beautiful homes, we have buildings. They have to
- be more, though, than just something to look at.
- 19 Adaptive reuse, such as with this large
- 20 Italianate, turning it into a B & B, and, of
- 21 course, the Danner's store, which has operated
- 22 since 1836, some things will change, some things
- 23 will stay the same.
- 24 QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: Is, uh - Are
- 25 you going to be involved with the - if a boat

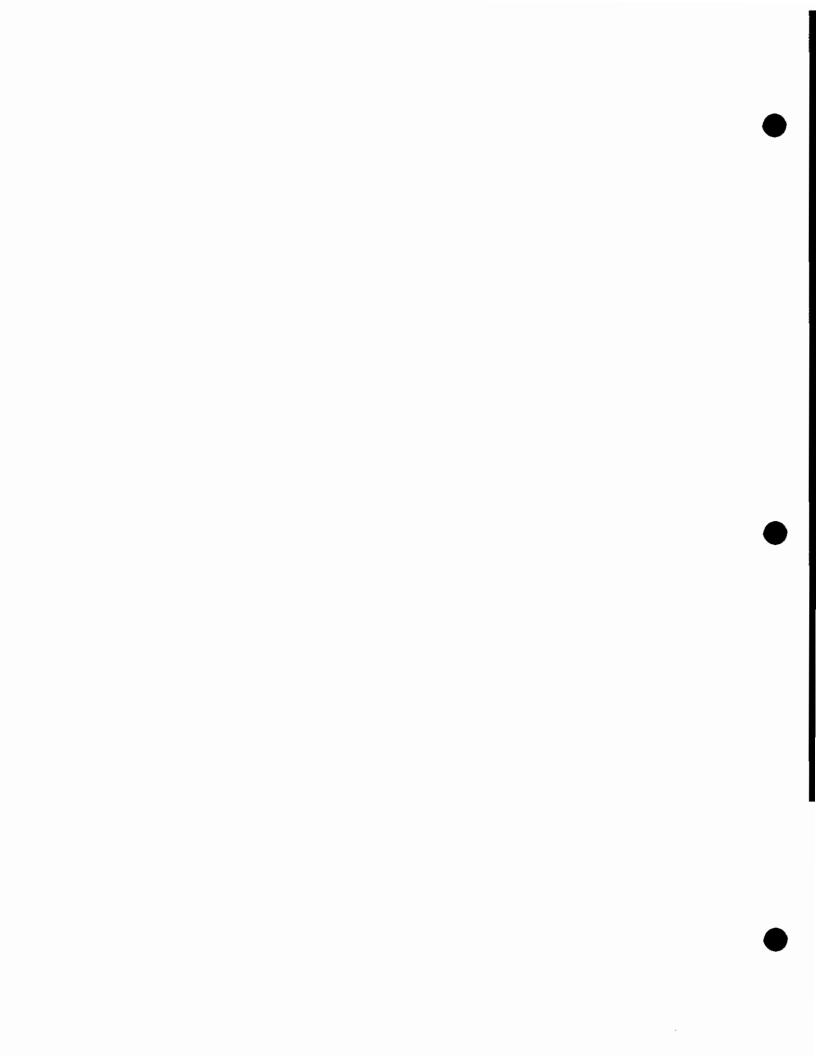


1	came to Vevay, would you be involved, as a
2	society or an organization, making sure that they
3	meet specific historic standards?
4	MR. McLAIN: Anything that has historic values,
5	yes, we certainly will.
6	ROBERT SUNDWICK: You certainly don't want big
7	neon signs at both ends of your town?
8	MR. McLAIN: No, we don't want big neon signs at
9	the ends of the town.
10	ROBERT SUNDWICK: Are you going to be able to
11	control that?
12	MR. McLAIN: Uh, as you'll hear later on, there
13	is a county-wide zoning that's taking place.
14	Now, within the historic districts, obviously,
15	under an ordinance you can control it. Outside
16	of that, though, that should be controlled then
17	by the county wide zoning. See, we have county
18	wide zoning which will also include Vevay and
19	Patriot, and one of the later speakers, Mr.
20	Brammer, will address that.
21	ROBERT SUNDWICK: Okay, thank you.
22	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Anything else? Thank you.
23	MR. McLAIN: Thank you.
24	CHARLES OVERBEY: Charles Overbey, 317 Ferry

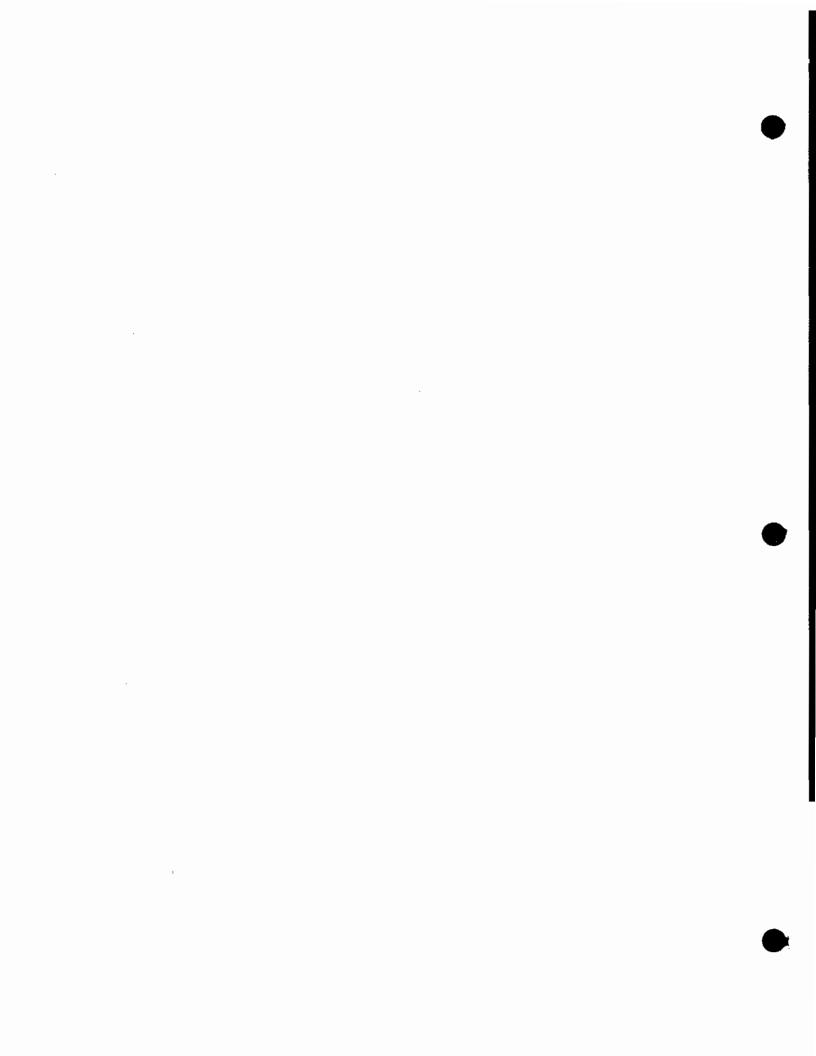
Street, Vevay. I serve as Executive Vice-president of the



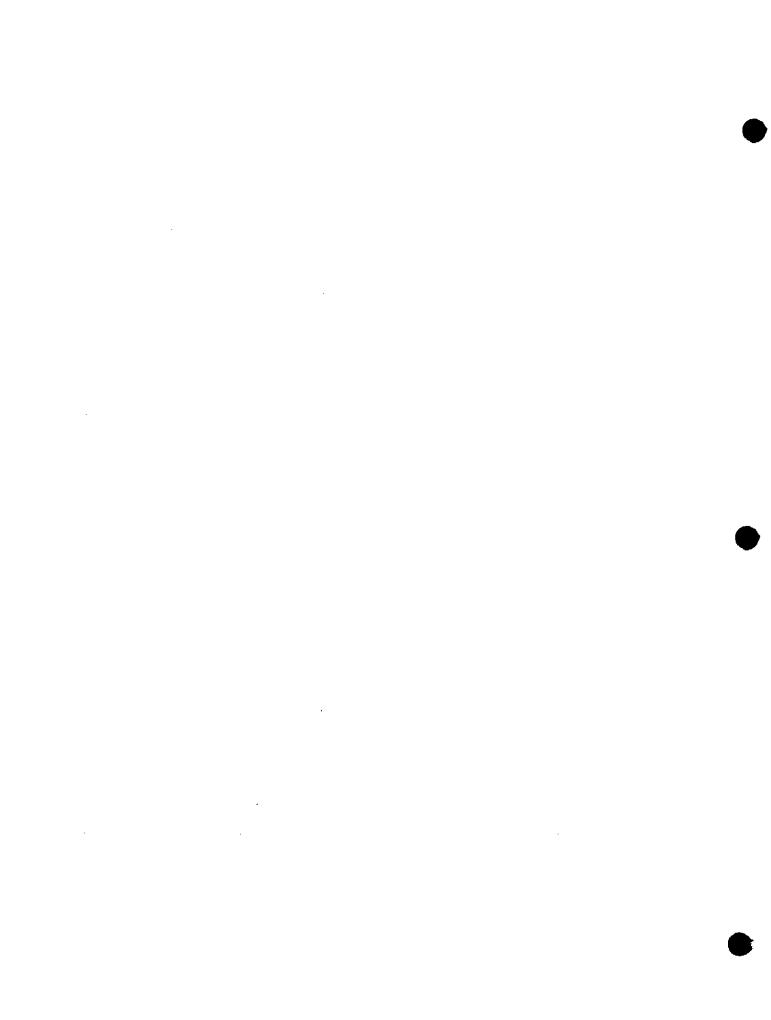
- 1 Vevay Switzerland County Foundation.
- In my remarks this morning, I will talk about the
- 3 development activities that have occurred in this community
- 4 and how this experience has helped prepare us for the
- 5 possibility of riverboat gaming.
- In the last fifteen years, an effective, public -
- 7 private partnership has made a sizeable investment in
- 8 Switzerland County's future. This investment program has
- 9 been designed to help create jobs and expand the tax base.
- 10 But more importantly, it has given the citizens of Vevay
- 11 and Switzerland County a renewed faith, a source of pride
- 12 and a very positive attitude. I hope to convey to you
- 13 today that the citizens of this community have the
- 14 experience, the capacity and the desire to help support the
- 15 development and ongoing operation of a first class
- 16 riverboat project such as that proposed by Pinnacle Gaming
- 17 Development Corporation.
- Our community was greatly benefited when native
- 19 son and philanthropist Paul Ogle decided to share his
- 20 wealth to help his hometown in an effort to strengthen and
- 21 diversify its local ecomony. Mr. Ogle, along with local
- 22 civic leaders, created Vevay Switzerland County
- 23 Foundation, a non-profit, charitable purpose organization
- 24 with a clear and focused mission, to preserve, create and
- 25 promote our architectural heritage, to aid in the



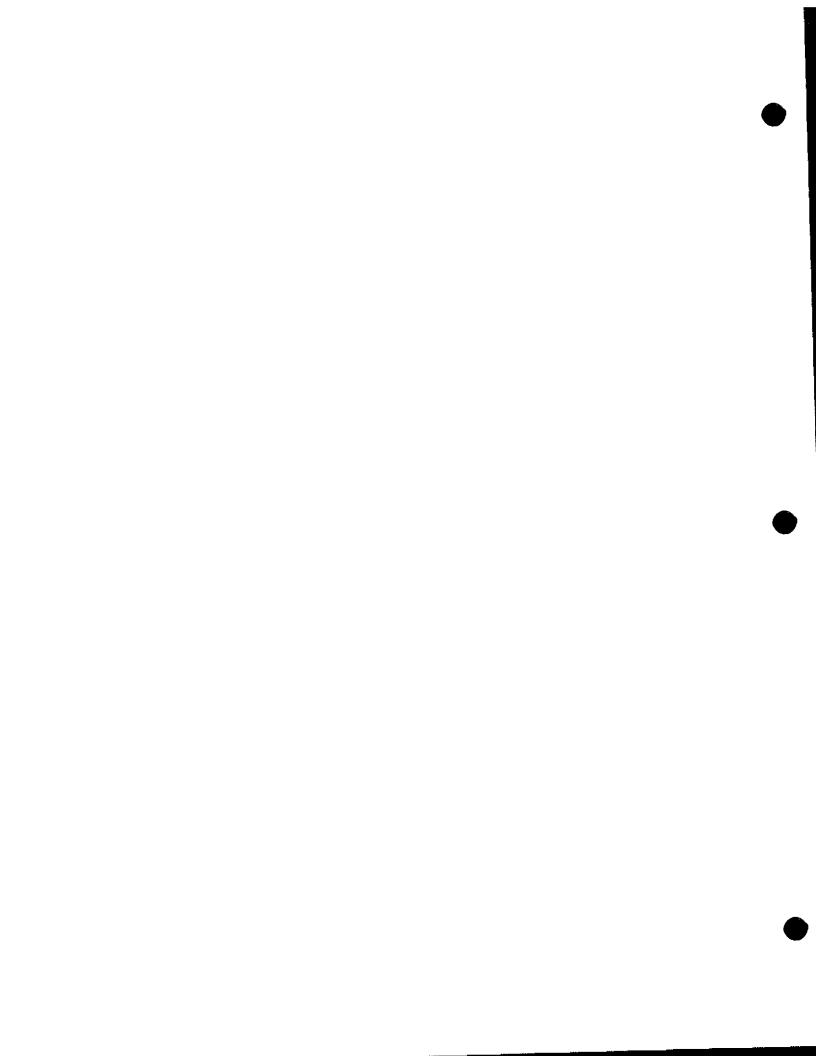
- 1 continuing improvements of the community for its citizens
- 2 and to assist local government and it's agencies in a way
- 3 that would lessen the burden of government upon its
- 4 citizens.
- 5 The foundation, created in 1979, with a local
- 6 board of directors, became a catalyst for community change
- 7 while serving as a conduit for Mr. Ogle's generous giving.
- 8 The vision he created for his hometown helped energize the
- 9 community. They responded with the same hard work,
- 10 cooperation and determination that our Swiss forefathers
- 11 exhibited in our early development.
- The foundation, in partnership with local
- 13 government and the community, embarked on a long term
- 14 development strategy with tourism as it's centerpiece.
- 15 This strategy was selected because of the beauty of the
- 16 hills and the river, our cultural heritage, rich history
- 17 and abundant architecture, and the ever important proximity
- 18 to urban markets, all within an easy commute.
- 19 In the early eighties, a series of projects were
- 20 planned and implemented by the community. A downtown
- 21 revitalization program provided new sidewalks, trees and
- 22 streetlights. This was followed by a building facade
- 23 improvement program where virtually every downtown building
- 24 received some restoration assistance.
- In the mid-eighties, the foundation provided a



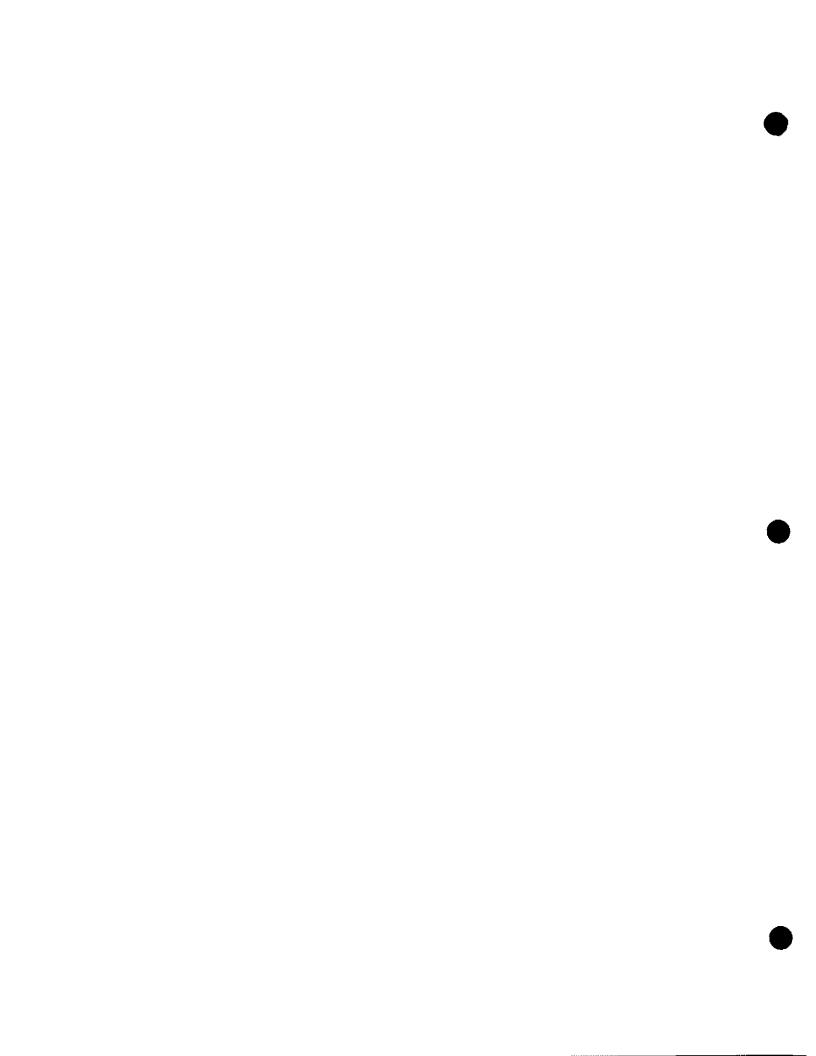
- 1 capital construction grant program to several local
- organizations. Funds were given to local fire departments,
- 3 emergency medical services, county churches, our two
- 4 incorporated towns, as well as others.
- 5 By 1985, our initial development efforts were
- 6 complete, but it was during this time that discussions with
- 7 travel and tourist experts indicated a real need for a
- 8 hotel or a motel to help support those development efforts.
- 9 With the exception of local bed and breakfast inns, our
- 10 county had no hotel or motel. Mr. Ogle, never being
- ll daunted by details, decided that if a hotel was what his
- 12 community needed to carry forth it's vision, a hotel it
- 13 would have. Today the Ogle Haus Inn serves as this
- 14 community's crown jewel, providing excellent accomodations
- 15 and ammenities for thousands of tourists and visitors. Th
- 16 Ogle Haus Inn is the first contact that many newcomers and
- 17 visitors have with our community and we believe that it
- 18 leaves them with a favorable impression that encourages
- 19 repeat visits. The Ogle Haus Inn has also helped encourage
- 20 the development of other shops, restaurants and
- 21 attractions. Altogether, this development has become an
- 22 important source of new jobs and also helping to expand our
- 23 tax base.
- More recently, and in the past four years, a
- 25 series of community projects have been developed and



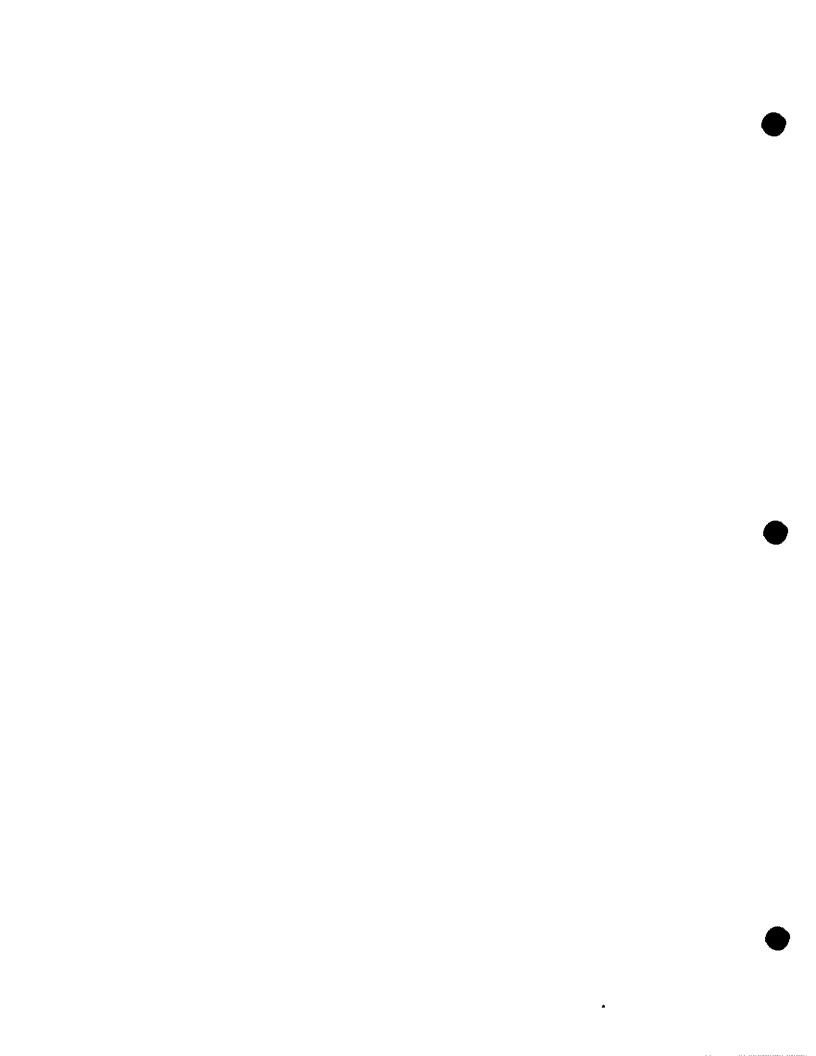
- 1 implemented to improve our quality of life. These major
- 2 projects include the Vevay and Markland Dam Riverfront
- 3 Parks, a new public library, courthouse restoration, an
- 4 adaptive reuse of the old Carnegie Library into the new
- 5 Town Hall, five water and sewer projects throughout the
- 6 county and a new riverfront subdivision that's nearing
- 7 completion.
- In the conclusion, I believe that we have been
- 9 preparing for this opportunity for some fifteen years. We
- 10 simply did not know that it might come in the form of
- 11 riverboat gaming. An article in your packet from the
- 12 Indiana Department of Commerce profiled our efforts three
- 13 years ago. In that publication they stated: the
- 14 determination, hard work and cooperation of this community
- 15 should bring Vevay out of the rough, in time, and turn it
- 16 into Indiana's - one of Indiana's tourism hotbeds, for
- 17 there is a sense of contagious excitement in this charming
- 18 community that can only foster significant accomplishments.
- 19 We agree with that assessment. Awarding Switzerland
- 20 County a license would certainly be a stroke of goodluck
- 21 for us, but there is a saying that luck comes to those who
- 22 prepare for it. Mr. Commissioner - Mr. Chairman,
- 23 Commissioners, I believe that Vevay and Switzerland County
- 24 are prepared and the citizens of this community will do all
- 25 to endeavor that if you should award us a license that it



- l will be successful and a viable proposition. Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- ROSE HARBERT: Rose Harbert, 33 Tague Road,
- 4 Vevay, Switzerland County, USA. Good morning.
- 5 My husband and I own and operate two businesses
- 6 here in Vevay. (Microphone fell) I guess I got your
- 7 attention. (Laughter)
- 8 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We do have a, uh -
- 9 MS. HARBERT: Technical problem here. I won't
- 10 touch it.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: You want to come up and check
- it? We'll, uh . . .
- MS. HARBERT: Again, good morning. One of the
- 14 most difficult things I think I've ever had to do is to put
- 15 into words the love and the pride I feel for Switzerland
- 16 County and to say it in a span of four minutes. It has
- 17 often been said Switzerland County is Indiana's best-kept
- 18 secret.
- I would like to share with you this morning how
- 20 Bill and I discovered Switzerland County and how we became
- 21 part of the business community and my hopes for our
- 22 county's future.
- 23 Thirty years ago, before I met Bill, he and
- 24 several fishing buddies came to Switzerland County after
- 25 reading in Field and Stream magazine about the great

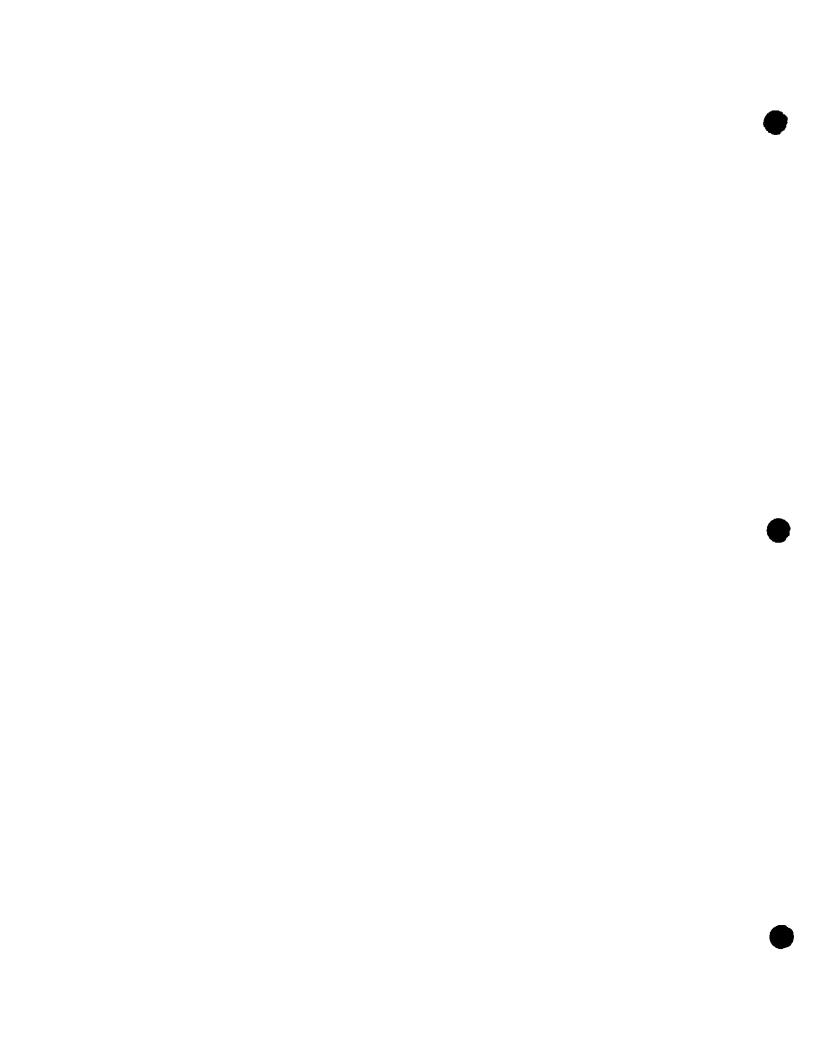


- 1 catfishing at Markland Dam. The next few years they made
- 2 many trips - weekend trips here to boat and fish the
- 3 Ohio River.
- 4 My first trip to Vevay was in 1970 for the Swiss
- 5 Wine Festival, along with a hundred thousand other people.
- 6 At the time, Switzerland County's only mode across the -
- 7 transportation across the Ohio River was by ferryboat. One
- 8 was upriver above Florence - above the dam at Florence,
- 9 and the other one here in Vevay.
- 10 At the time Bill and I married in 1972, we
- 11 resided in Fountain County. It's located seventy miles
- 12 west of Indianapolis on Interstate 74. Later that summer
- 13 we established a weekend residence here in Switzerland
- 14 County. For years, both summer and winter, we spent every
- 15 available weekend here. We travelled from the banks of the
- 16 Wabash to the banks of the Ohio, one hundred and eighty-
- 17 five miles one way. We always looked forward to our trips
- 18 to Vevay on Fridays and always dreaded the trip home on
- 19 Sunday evening. We were never ready for the weekend to
- 20 finish.
- 21 By 1985, we owned and operated three business in
- 22 Fountain County and in February of that year we opened our
- 23 fourth business here in Vevay. Although there were
- 24 seventeen empty buildings in Vevay's business district at
- 25 the time, we felt very positive about it's future.

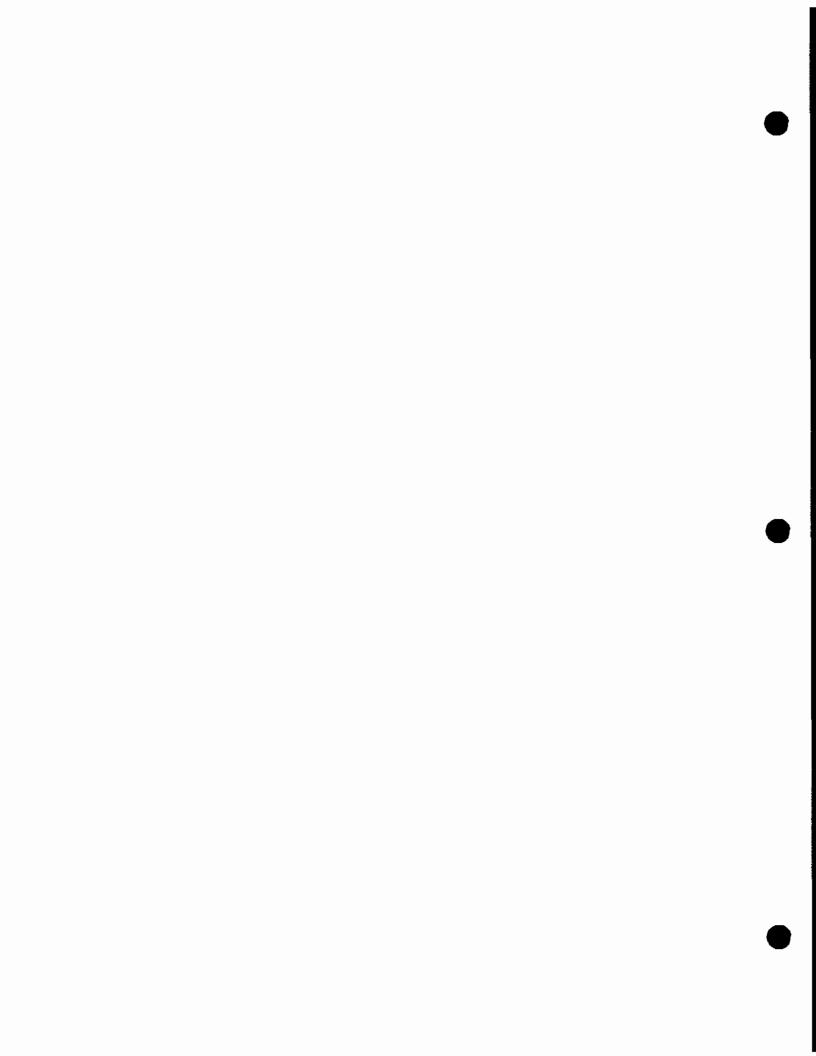


- 1 For over two years we commuted weekly between our
- 2 businesses. Those two years changed the course of our
- 3 lives. During that time, we sold our businesses and our
- 4 home in Fountain County, built a new house, and in October
- 5 1988 we made Switzerland County our home.
- 6 Six years ago this month, I opened our second
- 7 business here in Vevay, a candy and gift shop. Over the
- 8 years, each of our businesses have relocated to larger
- 9 locations here in town. The growth in my business is
- 10 attributed directly to the growth in tourism. The tourist
- 11 dollar accounts for over fifty percent of my business. I
- 12 invite visitors in my store to sign a registry and it's
- 13 quite interesting where they're from. I've had visitors
- 14 from Australia, England, Switzerland, Scotland, Germany,
- 15 Japan and all states across the United States, from east
- 16 coast to west.
- 17 Over the last thirty years, we have seen
- 18 tremendous changes and progress in Switzerland County. To
- 19 mention a few, the building of the bridge over Markland
- 20 Dam, giving us access to Interstate 71 and making
- 21 Cincinnati and Louisville nextdoor neighbors; the
- 22 construction of our beautiful Ogle Haus Inn; the
- 23 development of year round tourism; witnessing the growth
- 24 of the business community, with Vevay's newest business
- 25 opening it's doors tomorrow; and last, but not least, the

- 1 opportunity for riverboat gaming.
- The last two years, by far, have been the most
- 3 interesting and exciting. Riverboat gaming will provide
- 4 great growth potential for the entire business community of
- 5 Switzerland County.
- 6 Mr. Forbes and his associates have attended
- 7 numerous meetings with local business owners. From the
- 8 beginning, Pinnacle Gaming was willing to share with us
- 9 their plans for this unique project. James welcomed our
- 10 many, many questions and he listened to our - and most
- 11 importantly, they listened to our ideas and our
- 12 suggestions.
- I feel Pinnacle will be a tremendous asset to
- 14 Switzerland County's business community. A riverboat in
- 15 Switzerland County will provide needed employment
- 16 opportunities. A riverboat - The addition of a
- 17 riverboat will make Switzerland County a premier tourist
- 18 destination. A riverboat will create the demand for new
- 19 businesses and services to meet the many needs of our
- 20 tourists and residents alike. Instead of seventeen empty
- 21 businesses, which we once had, there will be seventeen new
- 22 businesses. The day you grant Switzerland County a
- 23 riverboat license, it can be said, once upon a time
- 24 Switzerland County was Indiana's best-kept secret. Thank
- 25 you.



- 1 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 2 JOHN KEETON: My name is John Keeton. I'm the
- 3 President of the Chamber of Commerce here in Switzerland
- 4 County. I live at 686 Highway 129 with a Vevay address.
- 5 And thanks for this opportunity.
- 6 Switzerland County is unique from the land
- 7 terrain standpoint, the people and the rural attitudes.
- 8 The consideration for applying for and the potential
- 9 attraction of a gaming boat has truly challenged this
- 10 county and it's leadership. Rural communities consistently
- ll lack the wide range of individuals that will serve, be
- 12 involved, visionary and that are willing to step forward
- 13 and provide the necessary commitment to serve it's local
- 14 organizations. The number of individuals that have been
- 15 mobilized into committee work and involved with the gaming
- 16 issues have been surprisingly large. A leadership two
- 17 thousand program, a five day comprehensive program with
- 18 speakers and interaction, saw fourteen Switzerland County
- 19 individuals involved and completing the training. They
- 20 paid two-thirds of the cost and now have the tools to help
- 21 with supplying needed leadership.
- The infrastructure of this county of this county
- 23 has been neglected for years. Improvement in roads,
- 24 sewers, gas lines, schools, public library and the
- 25 courthouse are only a few that our committees are presently



1 working and attacking with vigor. The county has lots to

2 offer to a growing tourist industry and the added jobs

3 would be received with great enthusiasm to the local

4 public. This county cannot and will not go back to the

5 attitudes of the past number of years. Whether this vote

6 comes to our party or not, this county has changed it's

7 complexion for the future.

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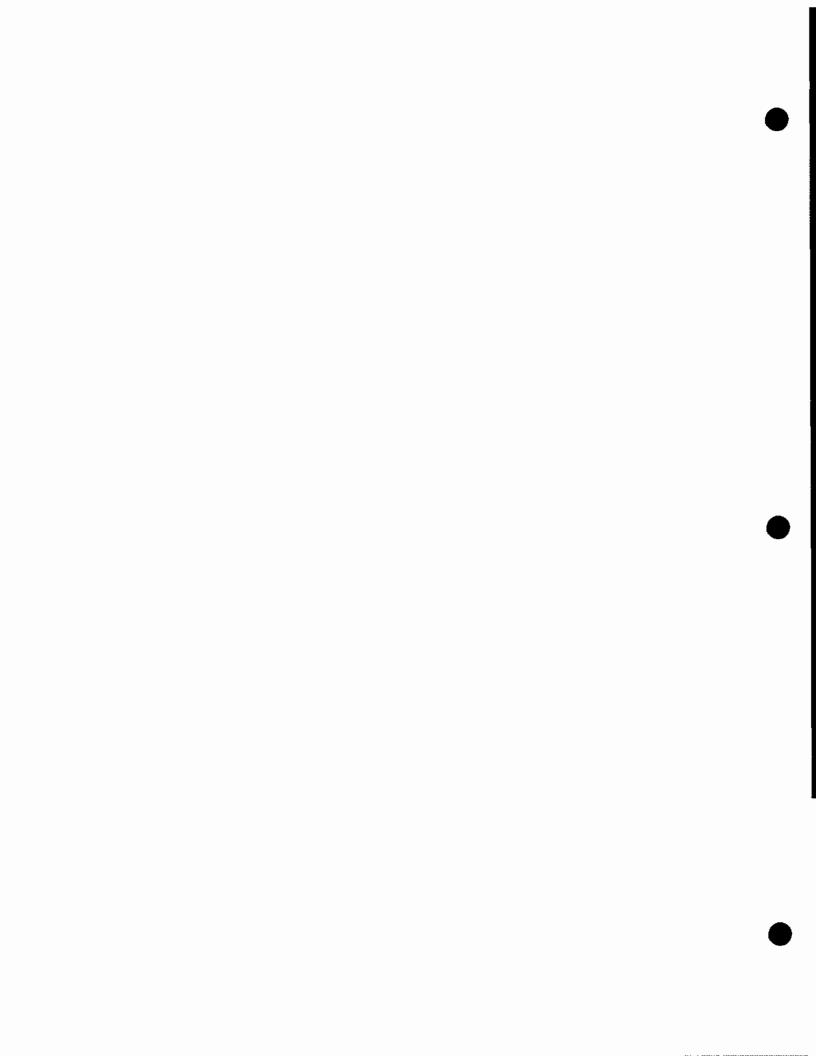
Switzerland County has a great work ethic coming from a very rich heritage. On a given day you may see Dale Andrews with his team of Belgian horses plowing tobacco, the Gerrard families with their Amish buggies on Highway 129, or Bruce Hutcherson's thirty foot head combine. You know that it's a rural community and the friendliness by the number of people that show up for funerals. The number

This county realizes that the potential strength and weaknesses of a gaming boat and the created jobs, the leadership is committed to focusing on long term and long range planning process. I have heard leaders express short and long term goals for continuing before, during and after the boat. This chamber will continue to encompass the entire community and it's needs. The blunt recognition of what this geographical area has to offer is one result of

the discussion and dialogue that's taken place for the past

of part-time farmers that daily give of their working time

are truly examples of a long history of working values.



- 1 two years. The negative attitudes that have prevailed for
- 2 a long time, that nothing will ever happen to Switzerland
- 3 County or Vevay, is in the process of change. Many
- 4 individuals are convinced that we can decide our future and
- 5 destiny.
- I have visited with the President of the Dearborn
- 7 County Chamber and Ohio County Business and Professional
- 8 Organization to plan an after-boat party to bring these
- 9 three communities back into a friendly and cooperative
- 10 spirit. Southeastern Indiana must realize our strengths
- 11 and market these in the spirit of frienship and vision into
- 12 the twenty-first century. This county has strengthened
- 13 it's attitudes and resources, never to return, and these
- 14 committed citizens are facing the future.
- 15 I'm on a national committee that is organizing in
- 16 1997, we're going to have three thousand people at a
- 17 national convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. It's a three
- 18 state initiative that we will have people from that coming
- 19 to Switzerland County.
- The one thing that I have on my little name tag
- 21 that I think very much represents Switzerland County, it
- 22 says Mission Possible, Uniqueness with Unity. Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. SCORE is sort of
- running out of time here. Uh, is there somebody
- 25 who we could talk to about, uh - You have

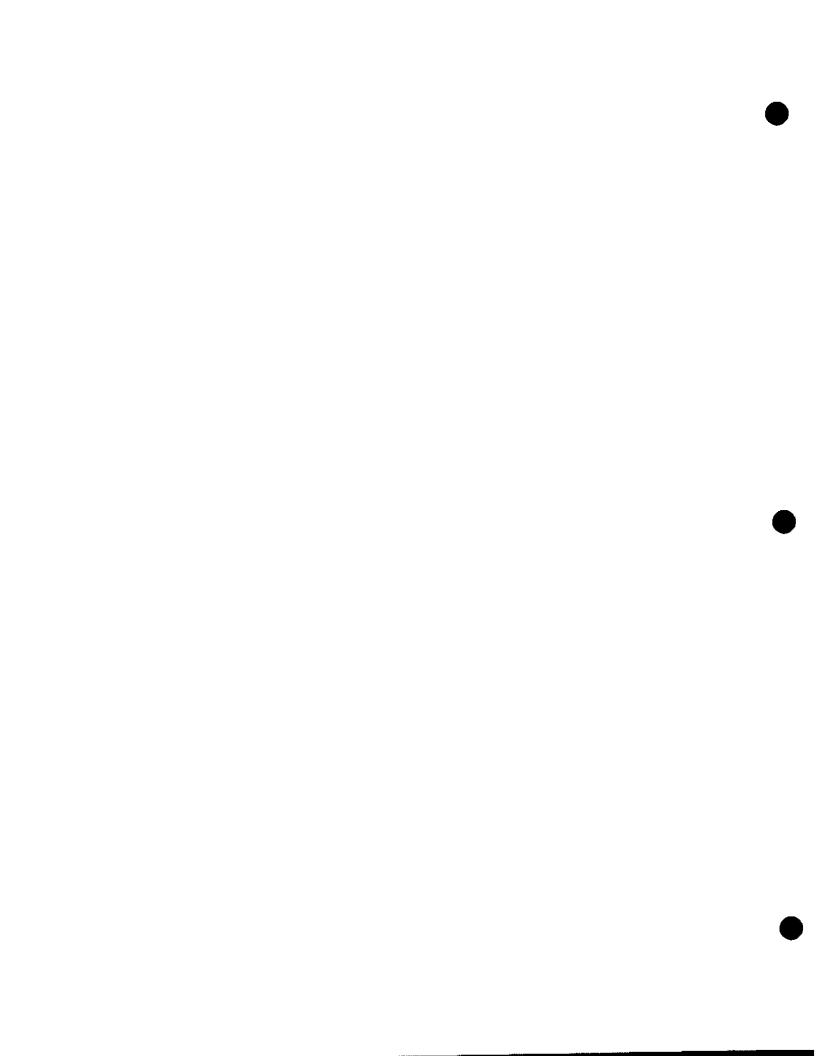
1		about five, six minutes total left out of the
2		forty-five. We don't want to miss any of your
3		important presenters, but how much more time do
4		you think you need over and above your forty-
5		five?
6		THOMAS CONROY: Twelve or fifteen minutes.
7		CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Well, in other words,
8		you would run about twenty minutes more from
9		right now?
10		THOMAS CONROY: Yes.
11		CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, Well, uh, is that
12		alright with the Commission?
13		(Commission members indicated agreement to the
14		additional twenty minutes)
15		CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Well, why don't you go
16		ahead and try to Yeah, well, see, we'll
17		back everybody up if we don't, so the twenty
18		minutes, I think, can work out, but if you'd make
19		sure that we live by that, so that would put us
20		at about nine-thirty or a little past.
21		THOMAS CONROY: Then we'll go for twenty more
22	minutes.	
23		CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.
24		DON RICHARDSON: Okay, Good morning. My name is

Don Richardson. I am the Executive Director of a not-for-

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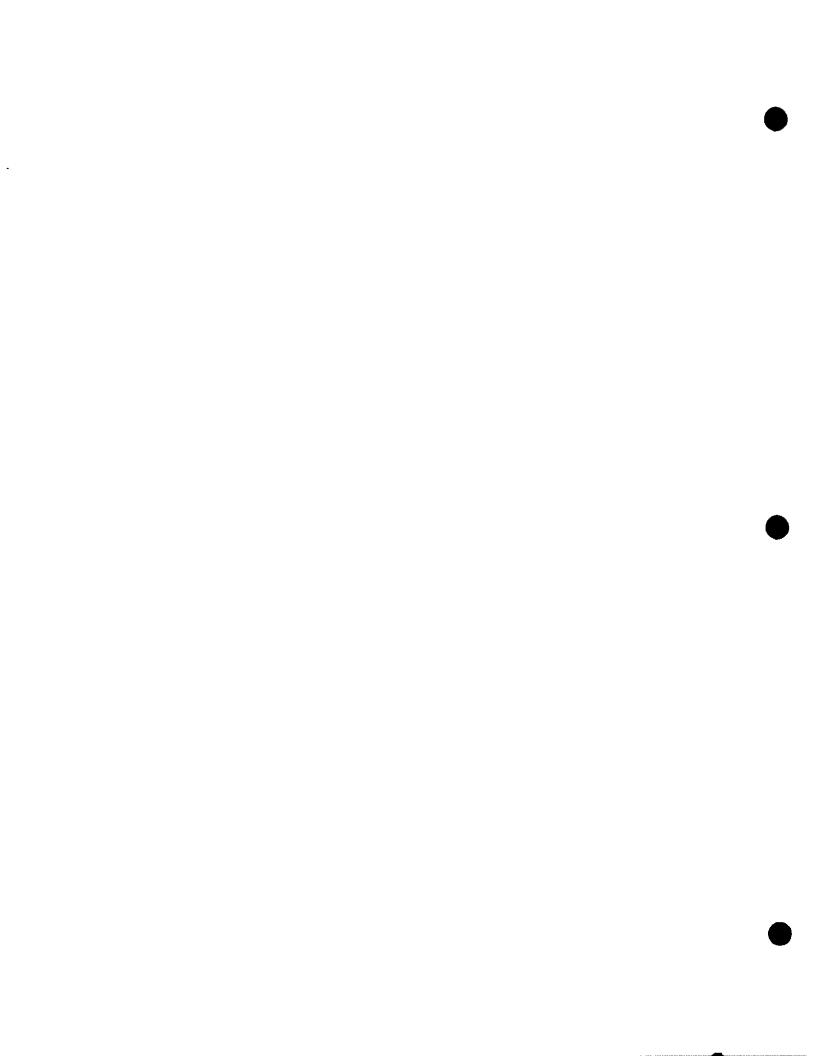
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- 1 profit organization named River Valley Resources and I'll
- 2 try to skip over the, uh, fluff and take this right to the
- 3 heart of it.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: That's what we want.
- 5 DON RICHARDSON: Yeah, Here in Switzerland
- 6 County and ten other counties which make up Southeastern
- 7 Indiana, I manage a number of employee training programs,
- 8 including the Job Training Partnership Act and
- 9 (indiscernible), better known as the Employment Service.
- 10 I work with an organization named River Valley Resources
- 11 headquartered in Madison, and, in fact, the services we
- 12 provide are applicable to all three of the communities who
- 13 are going to be appearing before you here today. So
- 14 politically and honestly, I have to say that I'm speaking
- 15 in behalf of everybody. I do have a kind of a special
- 16 feeling for Switzerland County, having years of good
- 17 support and having witnessed what these people in this
- 18 county can do, how they can call upon their resources and
- 19 pull things together and make things happen, and what I'm
- 20 skipping here are some of the examples of that, hoping
- 21 other people can represent that as they make their
- 22 presentations to you here today.
- 23 What we do and the investment that we make in
- 24 this process is to first meet with operators of the
- 25 riverboat you are about to approve for operation. We

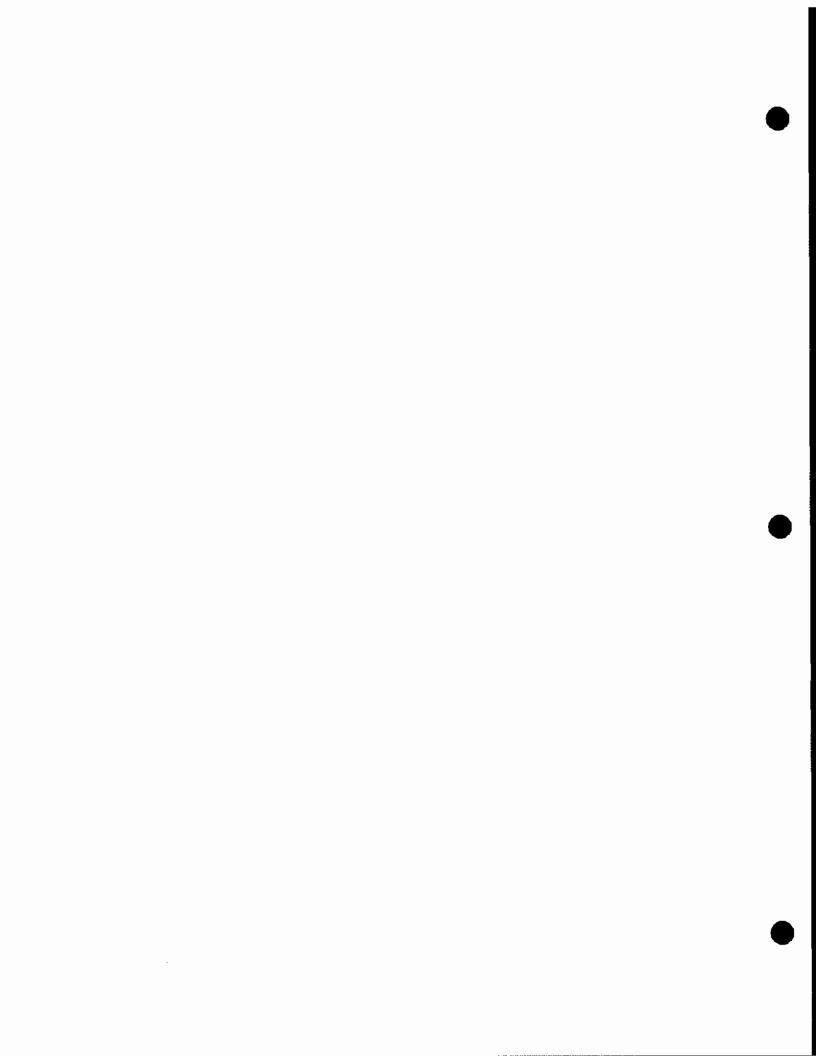


conduct a task analysis of the essential jobs that make up 1 2 that operation, including jobs that are peripheral to the operation, but that inevitably occur when you have 3 enterprise of this magnitude moving into a community. 4 We 5 try to find out what kind of academic skills are required, what kind of personal and technical skills are required, we 6 develop a recruitment plan, we develop a legally defensible 7 8 assessment and selection, instrument and process, and get on with the business of trying to identify right applicants 9 We have a real good history of this. 10 for the job. people that we identify will be right and ready, straight 11 ahead off the top. Some will be ripe for employment. 12 13 of the jobs that are created will require training and preparation and we do that. Some - - the minority, in my 14 15 experience - - won't have a prayer, but our objective 16 would be that, come opening day, working with all of these communities, there would be a ripe and ready work force 17 available to get on with the job. 18

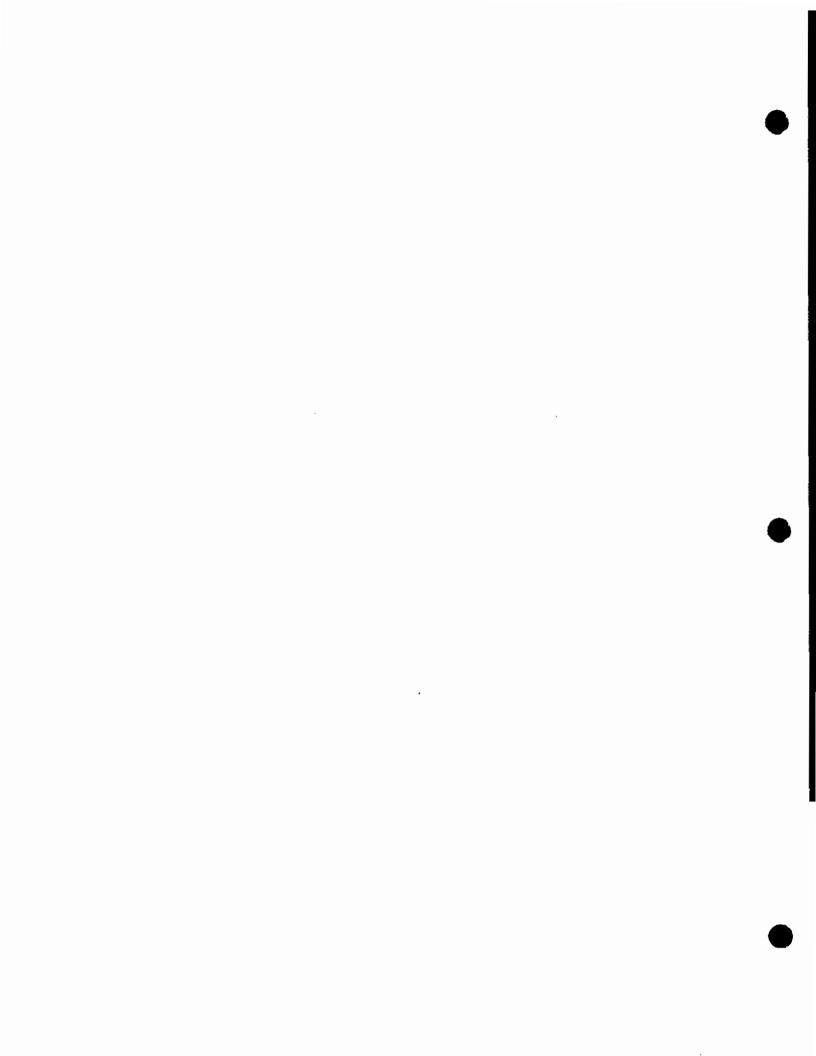
Of importance to me, to you, I will assume, and to the local folks who are speaking with you during your visit here, our focus will be targeted exclusively to insuring that Hoosiers get the first shot at these opportunities. People here in Switzerland County and folks in Dearborn and Ohio County have a solid work ethic that was mentioned earlier - I've witnessed it for twenty years



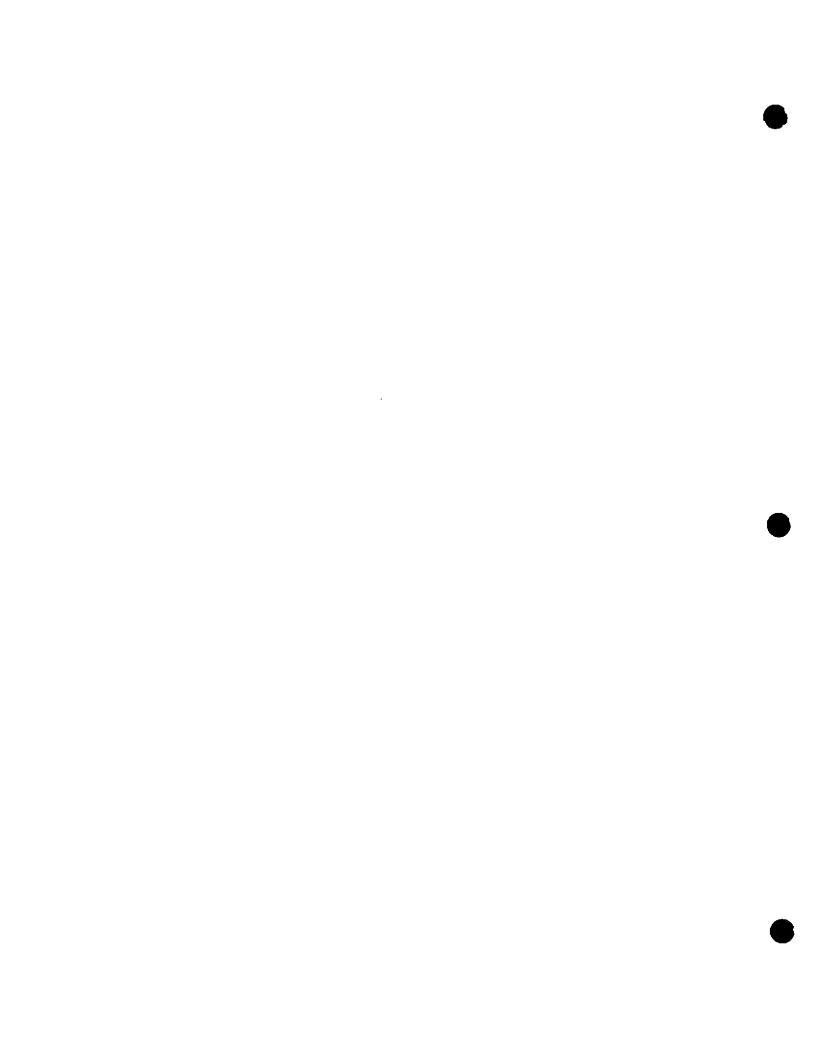
- 1 the sort of value and self-sufficiency which seems 2 endangered, if you watch television, in alot of communities 3 around the country. The community leaders, educators, employers, elected officials and others in this community 4 5 have a strong commitment to excellence and a proven ability 6 to bring together the resources necessary to get the job I have had a good experience. People here take 7 done. 8 their value from hard work, from a job well done, from 9 loyalty spanning generations, from a common vision and I am 10 confident, based on my experience, that these folks can pull it off. I have the capacity from one day to the next 11 12 and the necessity to call Betty Bovard at our office here 13 in Vevay, to call Teresa Link, who will be speaking with 14 you in a few minutes, Chuck Overbey you met earlier, Tom Conroy, and I ask them for advice or assistance and they 15 16 can respond. I've never been let down and I've seen these 17 people pull some things together that I consider to be virtually impossible. 18
- The vision of the job opportunities that will be created and the opportunity to participate and help to support and make that work excites me and I welcome you all to hear the various presentations and make a good decision and am confident that you will. Thank you.
- 24. CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 25 QUESTION BY DAVID ROSS: Question, sir.



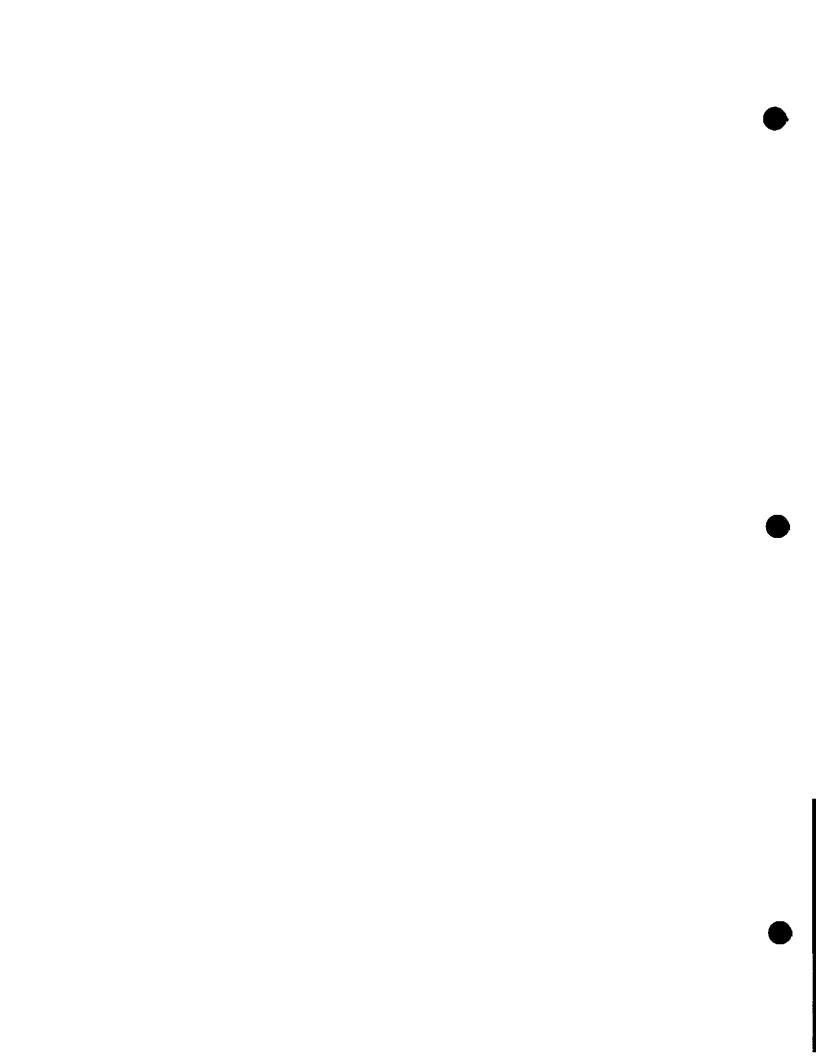
- 1 MR. RICHARDSON: Yes?
- DAVID ROSS: Is your training service, has that
- 3 been ongoing or has that primarily started
- 4 because of the casino?
- 5 MR. RICHARDSON: No, we have been in business for
- 6 about twenty years in one form or another
- 7 administering JTPA, as I mentioned, the
- 8 employment service, and we've worked with
- 9 probably a hundred and fifty, two hundred
- 10 business start ups in Southeastern Indiana
- 11 overall. Most of the services are at no cost, so
- we do have a good and a successful history of
- doing that.
- MR. ROSS: Thank you.
- 15 EARL CONNER: My name is Earl Conner. I'm a
- 16 life-long resident of Switzerland County. I live in York
- 17 Township.
- 18 I would like to say a few words about my area,
- 19 Florence, which was settled in the year 1800 and originally
- 20 was New York. It was a typical rivertown, farming the main
- 21 operation. When I first came to Florence, they had three
- 22 stores, a barber shop, post office, church and a garage, at
- 23 one time, even a bank. It was a thriving little town. I
- 24 have seen the change from gravel to blacktop roads.
- 25 I believe a riverboat can bring new life to



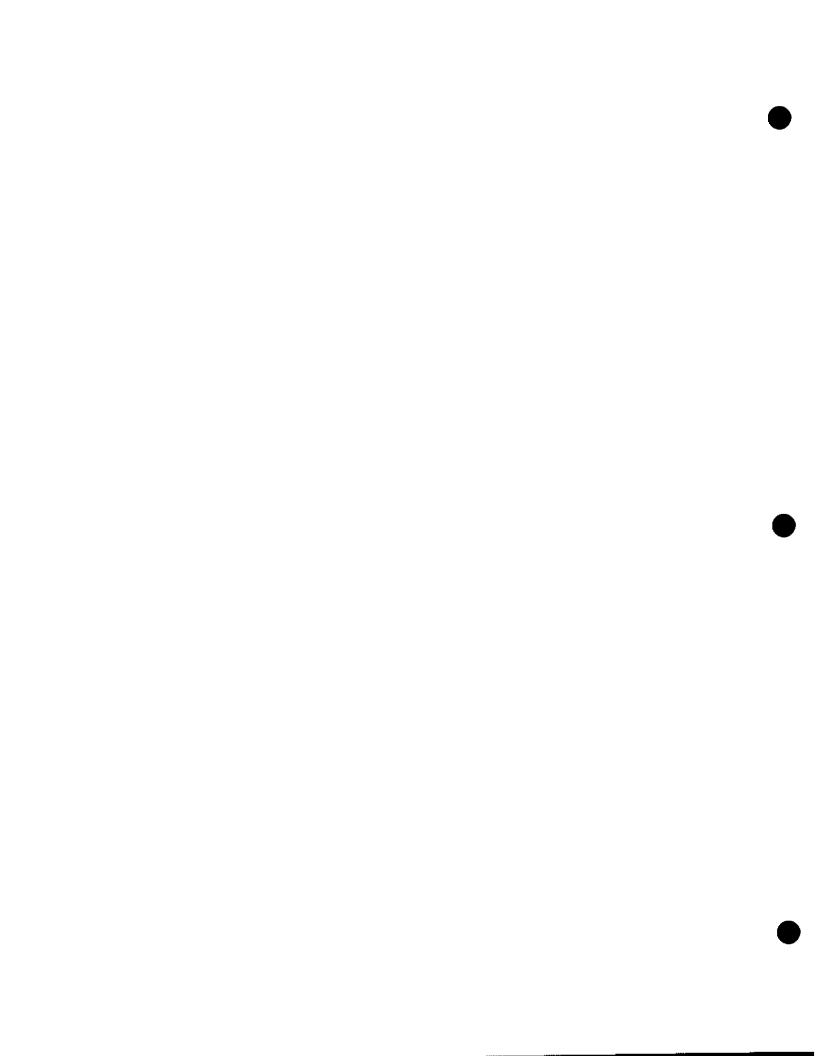
- 1 Florence and the county as a whole. I have worked with Mr.
- 2 Forbes and his associates from the start of this project.
- 3 Florence and York Township voted this in by sixty-three
- 4 percent, the widest margin for the county. I also feel
- 5 that people that don't gamble can enjoy the facilities of
- 6 the compound and the county can be proud of. Mr. Forbes
- 7 has stated he will be a good friend and neighbor to the
- 8 area and the surrounding communities.
- 9 We already are onto the process of getting a new
- 10 sewage project started in Florence and the surrounding
- 11 area. We are now getting ready for the boat project and,
- 12 in my opinion, it will be the greatest outfit this county
- 13 will ever have in the - with the Markland Dam and the
- 14 Kentucky traffic. I can see great things for Switzerland
- 15 County and the surrounding areas. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 17 TERESA BOVARD: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
- 18 Commission and staff members. I'm Teresa Bovard. I think
- 19 Don Richardson mentioned that I was Teresa Link, but I'll
- 20 answer to anything. I live at 10 Waterfront Drive,
- 21 Florence, Indiana, with my daughter, Annie. My home is one
- 22 mile west of the Markland Bridge. Switzerland County has
- 23 been my home for a lifetime.
- 24 In 1989, I decided to stay in Switzerland County
- 25 and become the owner and broker of a real estate company,



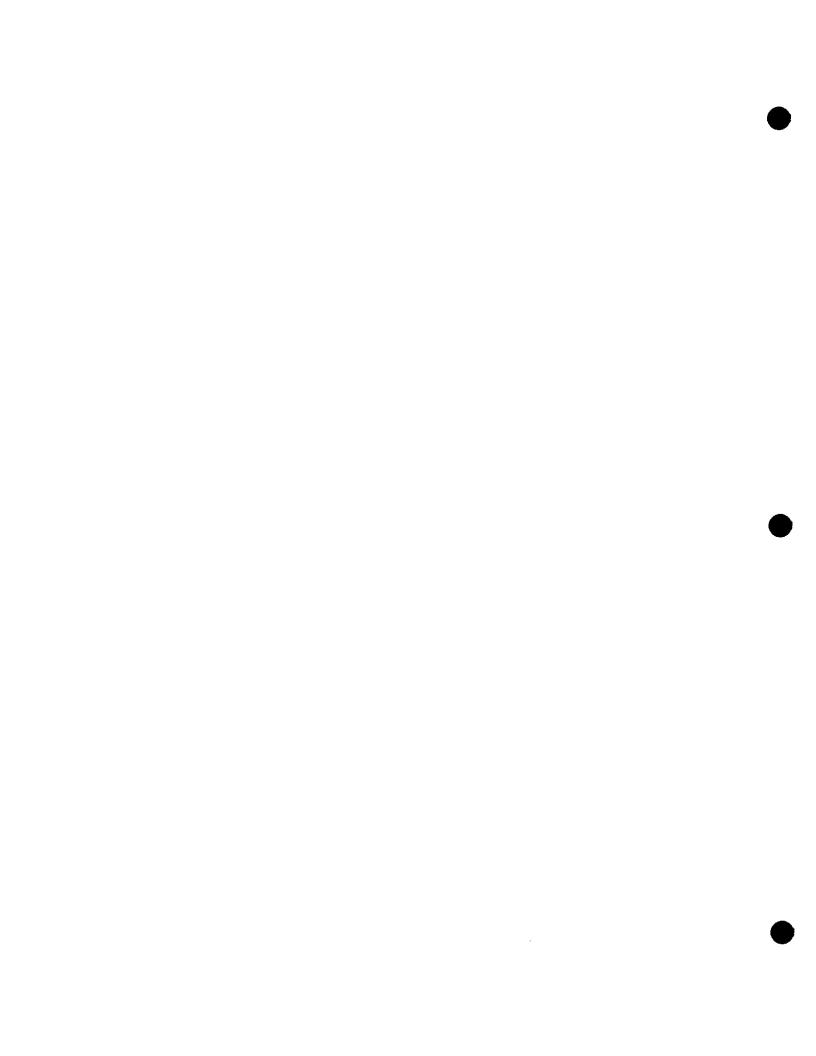
- 1 instead of accepting a job with the Internal Revenue
- 2 Service. Now, there are three of my family members and
- 3 others working with me in the business. I negotiated the
- 4 property options for the riverboat site here in Switzerland
- 5 County and I believe that thirty-six miles of riverfront
- 6 will be an advantage to attracting other business. I have
- 7 seen some increase in value since the referendum a year and
- 8 a half ago; up to twenty percent on homes and up to sixty-
- 9 five percent on unimproved property.
- 10 I'm trying to hurry through this.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Take your time.
- 12 MS. BOVARD: Okay. I believe that we can see
- 13 another increase when the boat is placed in Switzerland
- 14 County, maybe even up to fifty percent. We have several
- 15 large tracts of land in the county that we have had alot of
- 16 interest in since the referendum passed.
- 17 According to the Indiana State Board of Accounts,
- 18 Switzerland County has one of the state's lowest tax bases
- 19 of only around forty-three million dollars, yet we have the
- 20 third highest rate in the state, surpassed only by Lake and
- 21 Delaware Counties.
- We have clients from Cincinnati, northern Indiana
- 23 and Kentucky calling our office on a daily basis.
- 24 And I want to thank you for your consideration in
- 25 giving - or awarding Switzerland County a boat. Thank



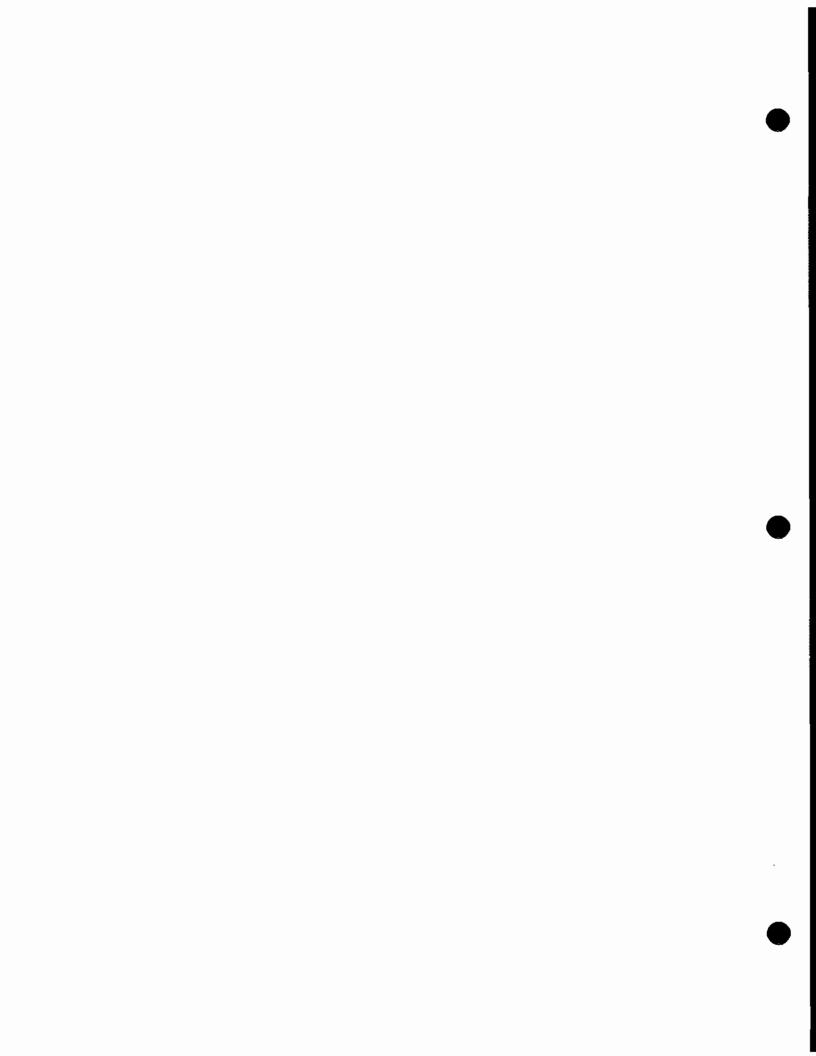
- 1 you.
- 2 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 3 CRAIG BOND: Good morning. Craig Bond. I live
- 4 at 38 Concord Road, Patriot, Indiana, six miles east of the
- 5 bridge, four miles east of the proposed complex. I own and
- 6 operate J & J Enterprises. We are an ICC authorized
- 7 contract carrier operating in forty-eight states and
- 8 Canada. I'm a former employee of the Indiana Department of
- 9 Transportation, having resigned my position as a rural sub-
- 10 district manager in October 1994 to devote full time to my
- 11 own business.
- 12 What impact will a riverboat in Switzerland
- 13 County have on transportation issues pertaining to INDOT?
- 14 First, we must realize that the need to build is monitored
- 15 continuously. This is accomplished by traffic count,
- 16 physical inspections and, most of all, anything that would
- 17 endanger the safety of the motoring public.
- 18 Traffic counts are performed at locations thought
- 19 to be average for the area in review. I'm sure all of you
- 20 have noticed those rubber hoses stretched across the roads
- 21 with the little box tied on the end of them? They were
- 22 counting traffic. In some of the most recent counts on
- 23 Highway 56 at the Markland Dam, in one twenty-four hour
- 24 period twenty-three hundred and ten vehicles were counted.
- 25 In that same twenty-four hour period on Route 50 in



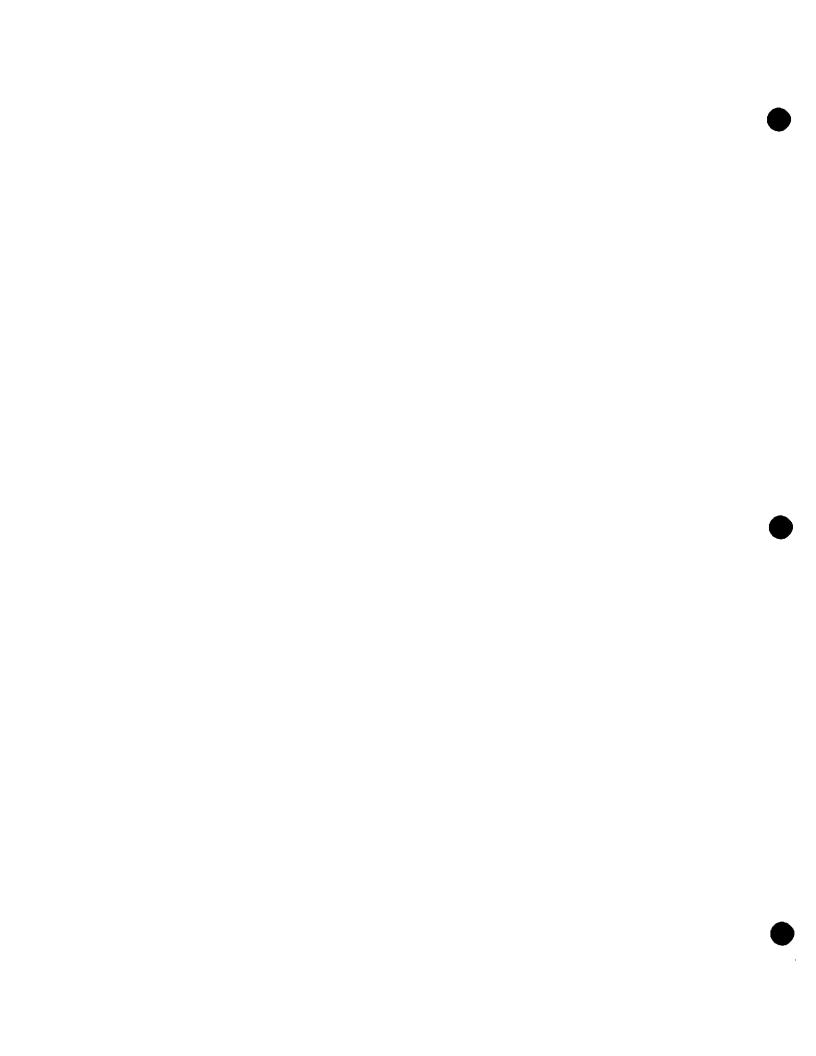
- 1 Dearborn County thirty-three thousand, eight hundred eighty
- 2 vehicles were counted. Switzerland County needs productive
- 3 traffic.
- 4 State highways are built and maintained solely
- 5 from gasoline and fuel taxes, so the more vehicles we have
- 6 coming this way, the more tax money we're going to have
- 7 available. A license in Switzerland County will definitely
- 8 help to improve the highway system in Southeastern Indiana,
- 9 thus opening the door for other business and industry to
- 10 follow.
- 11 Thanks to the efforts of our local tourism
- 12 bureau, Switzerland County has experienced some traffic
- 13 increase in recent years, resulting in several
- 14 improvements. Some projects scheduled for '95 and '96
- 15 include the resurface of 156 from Vevay, east of the
- 16 junction of Highway 56, an estimated cost of over two
- 17 million dollars. Replacement of two bridges, one just west
- 18 of town, Indian Creek, between here and Madison, the other
- 19 over Green Valley Creek, another seven miles on down the
- 20 river, another two million dollars. On Highway 250, just
- 21 west of Patriot, a couple of bridges, over eight hundred
- 22 and sixty-five thousand. Erosion and landslide control
- 23 along the river, 156, just in Switzerland County alone,
- 24 over three million dollars have been allotted for the next
- 25 two years. And in the planning stages now, the



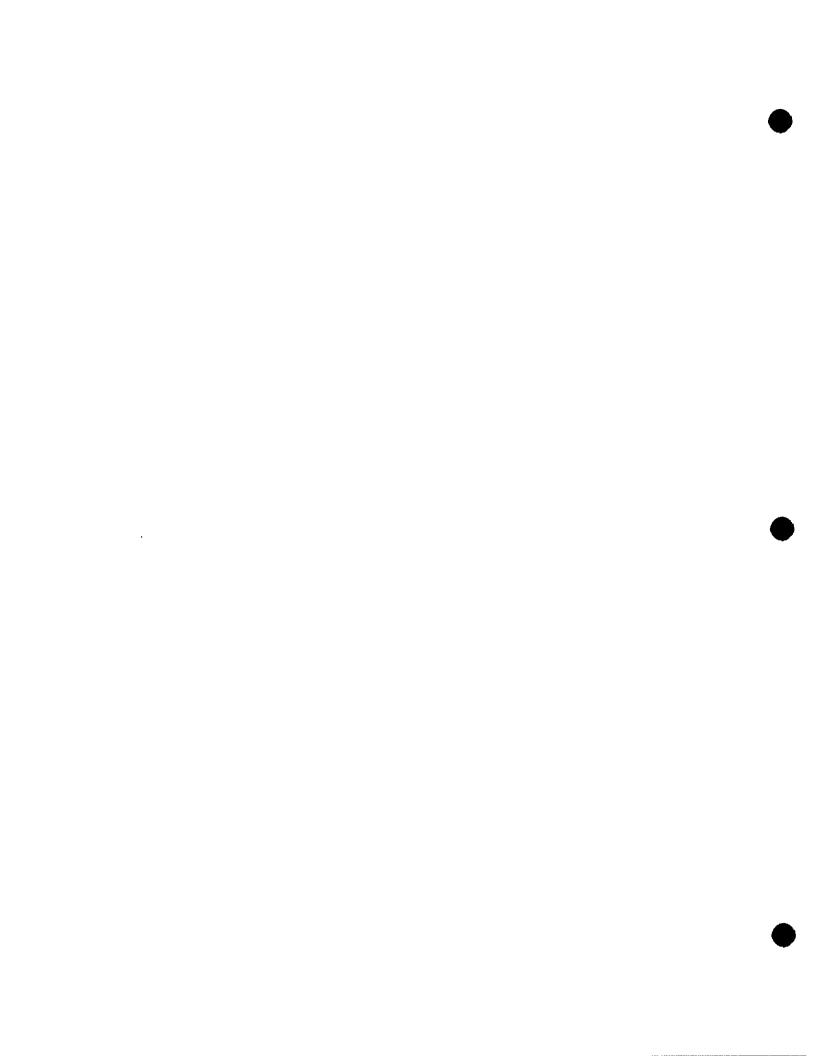
- 1 realignment of State Route 129 from Highway 250 in Pleasant
- 2 to 56, just east of town.
- 3 Although I'm no longer a part of INDOT, you can
- 4 rest assured they will respond to any needs that burden our
- 5 highway system or affect the safety of the motoring public.
- 6 In closing, I want you to know, Switzerland
- 7 County needs a riverboat. Switzerland County wants a
- 8 riverboat. Our willingness to share our resources with
- 9 seven counties of region twelve will make the State of
- 10 Indiana proud of Switzerland County when a license is
- 11 issued here. Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 13 TOM RICHARDSON: Good morning. I'm Tom
- 14 Richardson. My wife, Judy, and I own a home at 503 West
- 15 Market Street and a business address of 106 East Main
- 16 Street, both here in Vevay. We've lived in Vevay for seven
- 17 years and have been in business here for four.
- We came here from Northern Kentucky because we
- 19 liked what we found in Switzerland County. Few places
- 20 remain that afford the opportunity to live among nineteenth
- 21 century architectural treasure and at the same time provide
- 22 ready access to metropolitan areas within approximately one
- 23 hour. Every effort should be made to ensure that this
- 24 uniqueness is protected, because few places on this earth
- 25 have the natural beauty of Switzerland County.



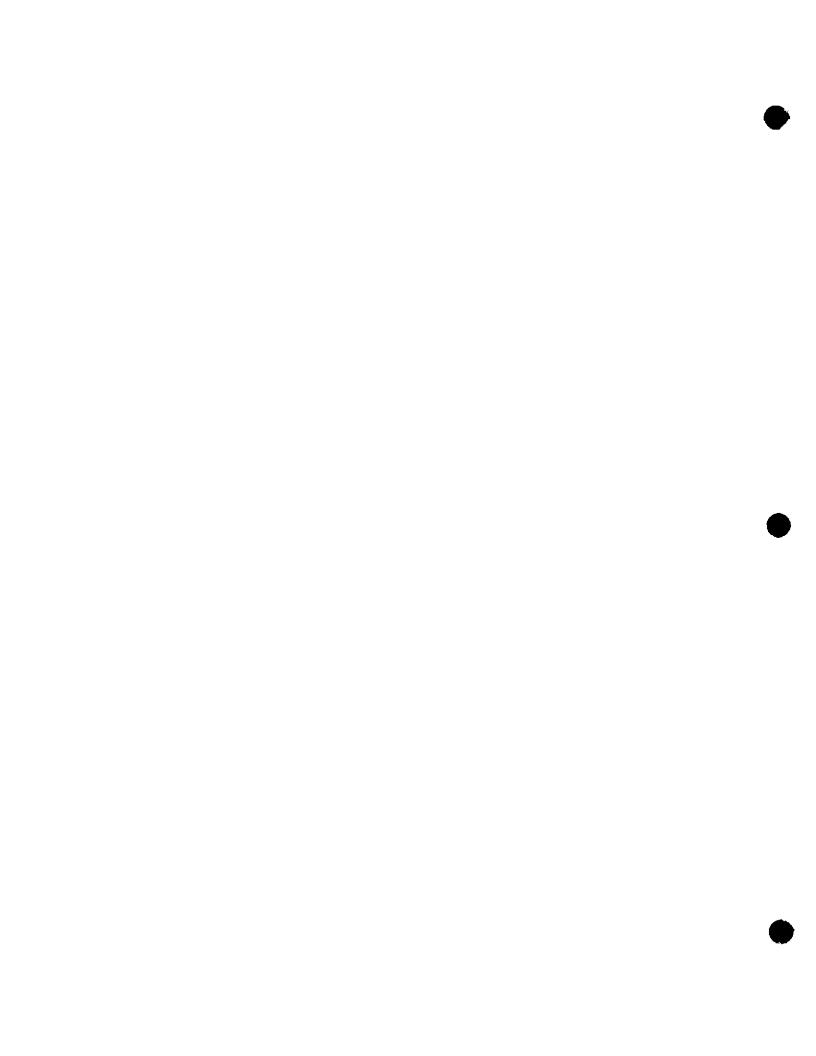
- 1 Judy and I selected Vevay as a location for our
- 2 business because it's our home and because of the
- 3 availability of labor. One only has to drive to Vevay one
- 4 time to realize that we are not situated at the
- 5 transportation hub of the nation. However, our business
- 6 requires that in order to provide the service to our
- 7 customer, the product must be transported to Vevay daily.
- 8 This material movement for us requires trucks travelling
- 9 daily to Ohio and Kentucky, sometimes twice daily to each
- 10 location. The daily transportation of material in raw and
- 11 finished state has never been interrupted in the four years
- 12 of our business existence due to road conditions or
- 13 weather. Improved roads would be great for this area, but
- 14 existing road conditions will not prevent us from providing
- 15 work for our thirty-five employees.
- 16 Thank you for your attention.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 18 LEROY BRAMMER: My name's Leroy Brammer, 1447
- 19 Highway 156, Patriot, Indiana. Good morning and welcome to
- 20 Switzerland County, I'm President of the Switzerland
- 21 County Area Planning Commission, and also serve on the
- 22 zoning appeals board. I would like to give you a brief
- 23 outlook of the zoning board in Switzerland County.
- 24 The zoning in Switzerland County was truly last
- 25 updated in 1972. As of the first of February, '95, Harry



- 1 Sheridan of Metropolitan Planners Incorporated of
- 2 Indianapolis was given a one year contract to help both
- 3 boards write and update our zoning laws and ordinance.
- 4 (indiscernible) by National Department of Resources in 1994
- 5 and they asked our riverfront, including flood plain,
- 6 waterways, be changed to comply with their standards.
- 7 March the 1st, 1995, the county commission passed a new
- 8 ordinance to help comply with these requests. The area
- 9 planning commission voted and passed a building code
- 10 ordinance. The county commissioners will have a hearing on
- 11 this ordinance May the 1st, 1995. If this passes, the
- 12 county building codes will be the same as the state
- 13 building codes. We now have an executive secretary and
- 14 hope by July the 1st, 1995, when we have additional funds,
- 15 we will hire a full time building inspector.
- 16 Switzerland County, Vevay, Patriot was
- 17 established as one area planning department in the early
- 18 sixties. Our population in Switzerland County has
- 19 increased from six thousand, three hundred and six to seven
- 20 thousand, seven hundred and thirty-eight from 1970 to 1990.
- 21 Now, with the population on the upswing, along with other
- 22 trends, there is a great need for the citizens of
- 23 Switzerland County to renew their planning and zoning
- 24 efforts in order to accomplish the following objectives.
- 25 The highway system be carefully planned.



- We are going to do of our roads existing
- 2 proposals which roads would be approved first.
- 3 Second, that new developments grow only with
- 4 accurate public (indiscerible), utility, health, education
- 5 and recreation facilities. With the population on the
- 6 increase, there will be more demand for housing
- 7 developments. How they are developed should not be left to
- 8 chance. We must have plans in place to provide the proper
- 9 growth.
- 10 That the needs of agriculture industry and
- 11 business be recognized in future growth (indiscernible) we
- 12 have in this county and the area subject to flooding,
- 13 (indiscernible) is becoming a precious commodity. We must
- 14 protect the agriculture pursuit with compromise and basic
- 15 use of this land. Industry certainly cannot be ignored in
- 16 the planning process, preserving what we already have and
- 17 providing for expansion of new development. And business
- 18 expansion, this is a real planning task, especially when it
- 19 is not know if the gambling industry will end up here in
- 20 our county or possibly nearby.
- 21 Four, that resident area provide helpful
- 22 (indiscernible) for family life, the task here is to
- 23 preserve the good things and eliminate the undesireable
- 24 conditions that growth of the community (indiscernible) and
- 25 public lands.



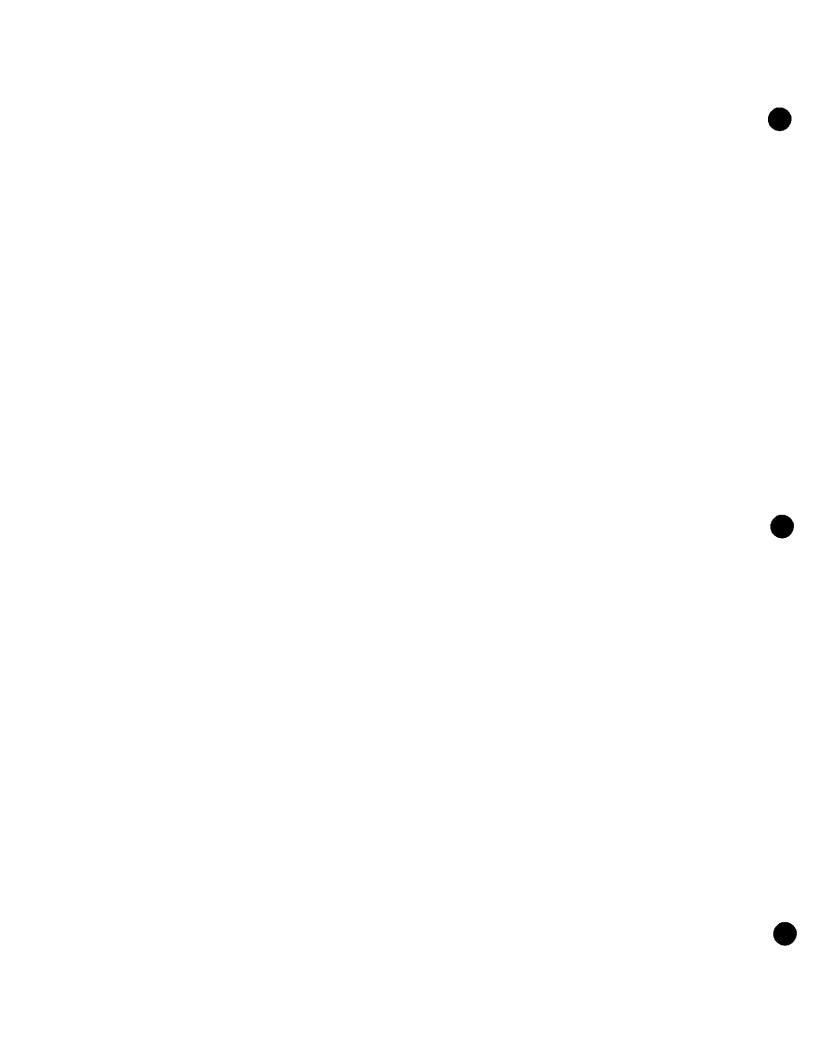
Ţ	well, this is the task that the Area Planning
2	Commission is looking forward to doing. We want to combine
3	all five of these objections into a (indiscernible) plan
4	for Switzerland County, a plan that people in this county
5	wants, and a new zoning code would be developed to help
6	make the plan a reality. We have given ourselves one year
7	to get this done. We think this is a plus for Switzerland
8	County. Since we our writing our new codes to update the
9	county if riverboat gambling comes to the county we are in
LO	the position to have good zoning laws. Thank you.
11	QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. I have
L2	a quick question. You do have county wide zoning
13	presently, is that correct?
L <b>4</b>	MR. BRAMMER: Yes, it was rewritten in 1972 and
15	has been a few updates in that time, but by the
16	end of the the first of February of next
17	year, we will have a complete new zoning as
18	required by the state and what the county people
19	require.
20	QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. But you can
21	control development at the present time?
22	MR. BRAMMER: Oh, yes, yes. We have We are
23	We approved, uh, Tuesday night we approved
2 4	twenty-six permits for Switzerland County. Yes,
25	we are fully operating now. We were reorganized

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1	the first of this year, new board members elected
2	and so we are a viable organization.
3	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: The reason I ask is, I come
4	from Hamilton County, which is just north of
5	Indianapolis. They did not have county wide
6	zoning and something happened up there that
7	surprised everybody and now they have county wide
8	zoning, but prior to that time, they did not and
9	basically had no control over what was going on.
10	MR. BRAMMER: Right. No, we have full
11	Well, and I think it's a plus that we have one
12	board controlling the whole county and the town,
13	which gives us a plus for this organization,
14	because we control the whole county and we have
15	real good working relations with both
16	incorporated towns.
17	QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: Are the I
18	guess you're going to call them directors or
19	of your commission or board, are they elected or
20	appointed?
21	MR. BRAMMER: They are appointed.
22	QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: Is there anybody on
23	your historic society from Vevay upon the board?
24	MR. BRAMMER: I don't believe so.
25	MR. SHNDWICK: Okay thank you.

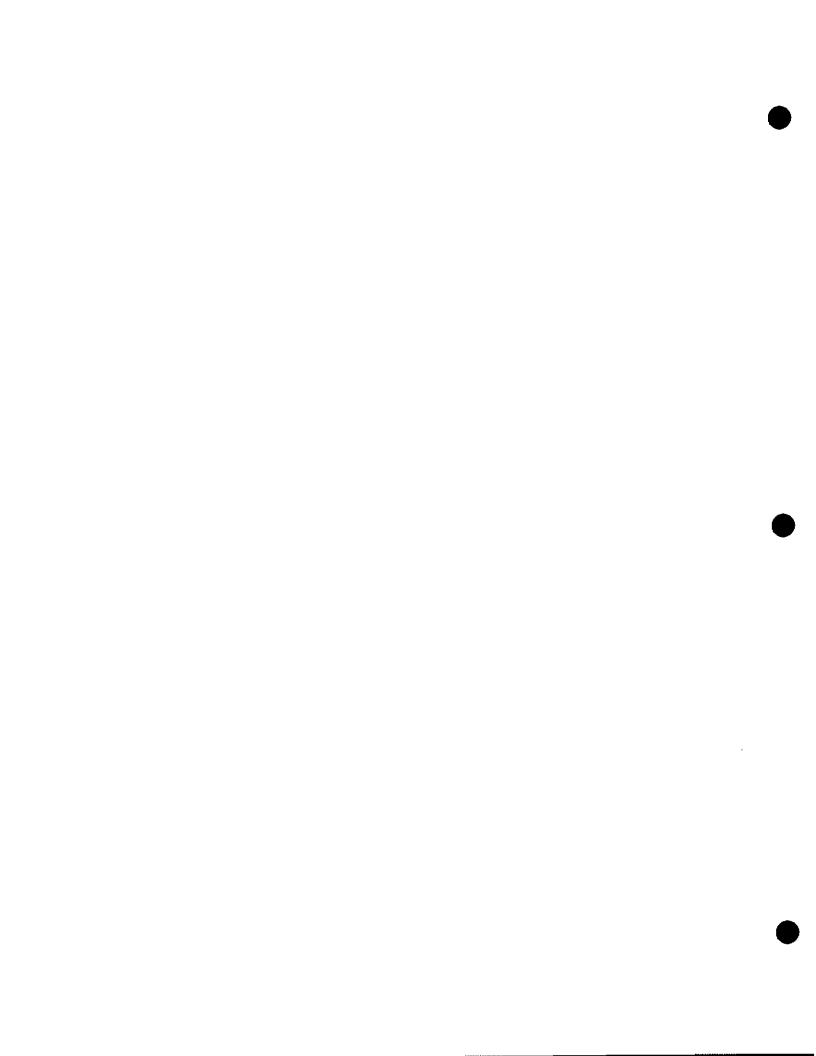
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- 1 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 2 KIRK WORKS: Kirk Works, 1007 West Main Street,
- 3 Vevay. Good morning.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Good morning.
- 5 KIRK WORKS: After graduating from the University
- 6 of Evansville and working in Evansville for three years, I
- 7 decided to return home to Switzerland County. I looked for
- 8 a job in Switzerland County, but there were none. I was
- 9 fortunate enough to find a job just across the river in
- 10 Kentucky. Thanks to the Markland Dam Bridge, which
- ll provides easy access to Kentucky, I'm able to live in Vevay
- 12 and work in Kentucky.
- 13 Since 1991, I have worked for two steel plants
- 14 just across the river. I have witnessed firsthand the many
- 15 consultants and contract workers needing a place to stay
- 16 anywhere from one week to one year. Many of those people
- 17 stay here at the Ogle Haus. It has been commented to me
- 18 how nice and accommodating this hotel is and what a
- 19 wonderful place Vevay, Switzerland County, is. They often
- 20 ask me about the status of riverboat gaming in Switzerland
- 21 County. I continue to tell them it is coming soon. I ask
- 22 why the interest in riverboat gaming. There response would
- 23 be they were looking forward to a local place where they
- 24 can go with their colleagues for some fun and
- 25 entertainment.

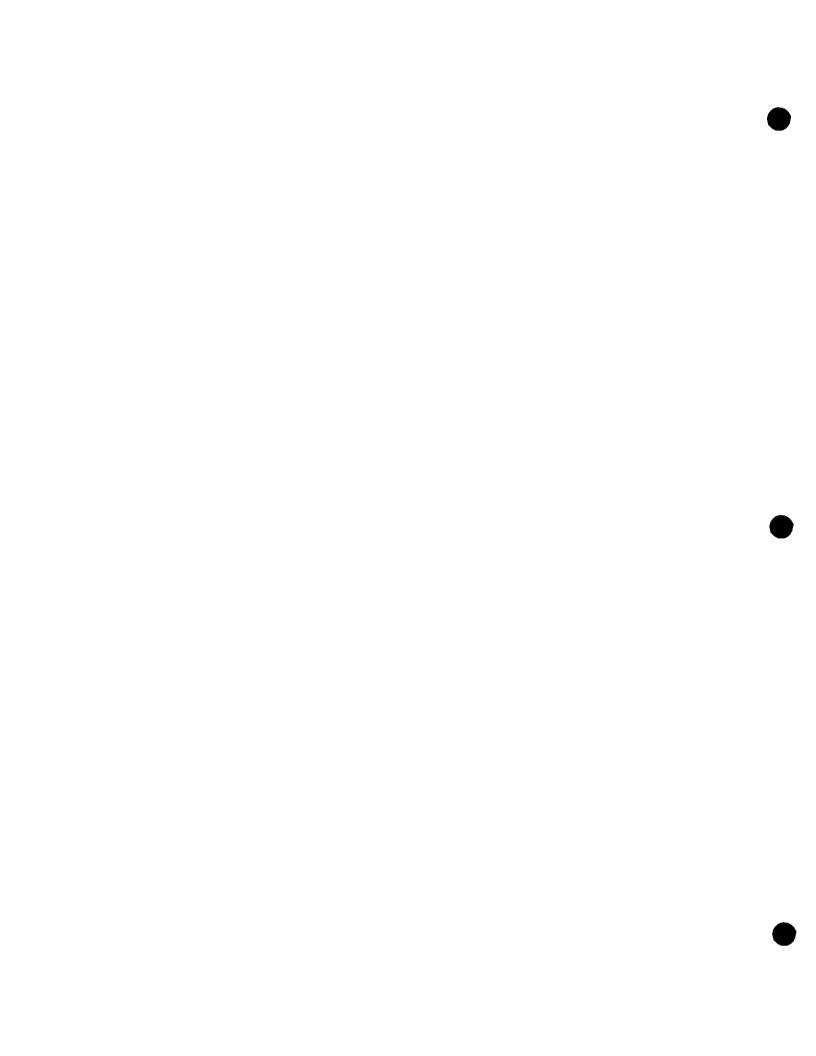


I'm aware of many young people who would like to 1 2 return to Switzerland County after graduating from college, but are unable to do so because of the lack of job 3 4 opportunities. This gaming development will open up many opportunities in Switzerland County. 5 Tourism, advertising, marketing, accounting, information systems, 6 7 management will now be available right here in Switzerland This would allow college educated people to live County. 8 and work in their home county, thereby increasing the 9 10 number of members in the community who would be actively involved in the many community activities in Switzerland 11 12 County.

13 One of those community activities is the annual Swiss Wine Festival, which I am chairman of this year. I 14 can remember when I was a kid and was fascinated by the 15 16 many carnival rides and large crowds of people that 17 attended the festival each year. Today the festival is 18 more community oriented and is now sponsored by the Vevay -Switzerland County Lions Club. The festival committee is 19 20 made up entirely of community volunteers. We are very well 21 organized and have been planning since October for this 22 year's festival. For the first time, we have applied for and received four different grants totalling over eight 23 thousand five hundred dollars. We are spending over ten 24 25 thousand dollars promoting both the festival and



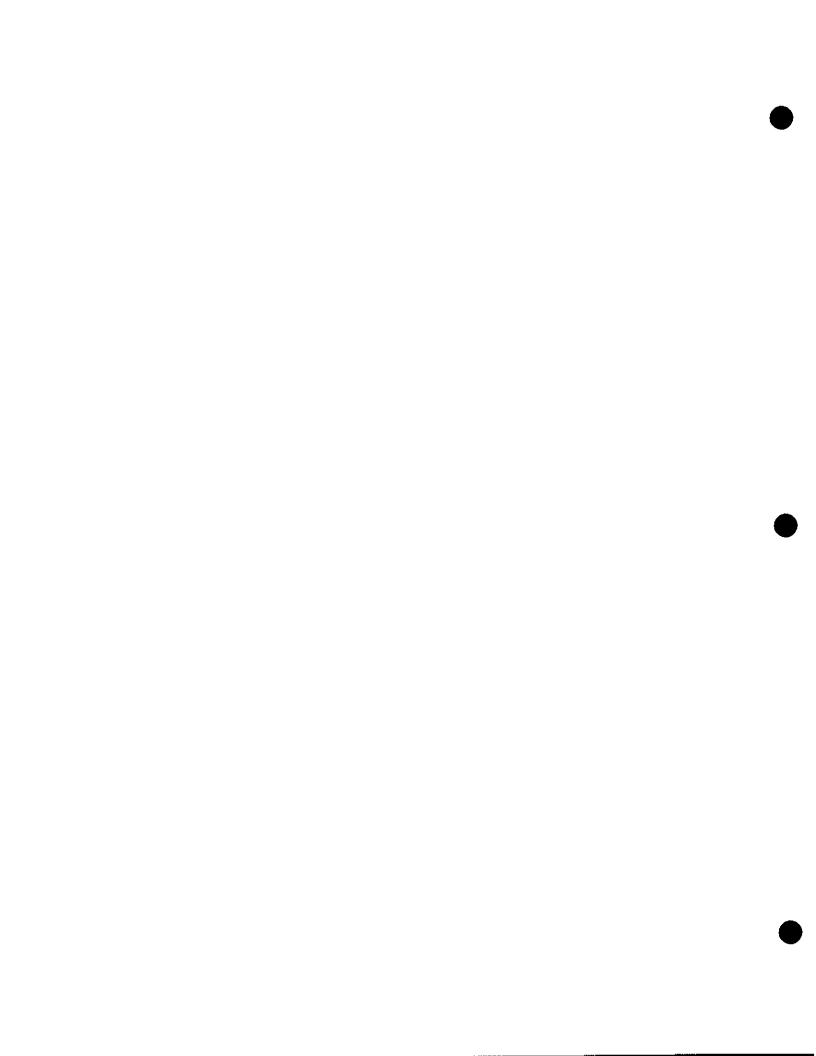
- 1 Switzerland County through brochures, posters, radio and
- 2 newspaper advertisements to the surrounding area, including
- 3 Cincinnati, Louisville and Indianapolis. As you can see,
- 4 this community has put their support behind this festival,
- 5 as well as many other community events throughout the year.
- 6 This community is made up of many hardworking volunteer
- 7 minded individuals, as evidenced by the homebaked goods
- 8 brought here today.
- 9 Commissioners, I urge you to grant Switzerland
- 10 County a riverboat gaming license because the people
- 11 currently living here and the many college educated people
- 12 who would like to return to Switzerland County are ready,
- 13 willing and able to make this project a success, not only
- 14 for Switzerland County, but for the State of Indiana.
- 15 Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 17 THOMAS CONROY: In your booklets you will find
- 18 some maps and things in the back that might be helpful with
- 19 you when you tour the proposed site tomorrow and we thank
- 20 you for your time and sincerely look forward to seeing you
- 21 fellows at the grand opening if we are awarded a license.
- 22 This concludes SCORE's presentation.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, well, thank you very
- 24 much. We may move our break up a little bit, but
- 25 before we do, I understand that a state



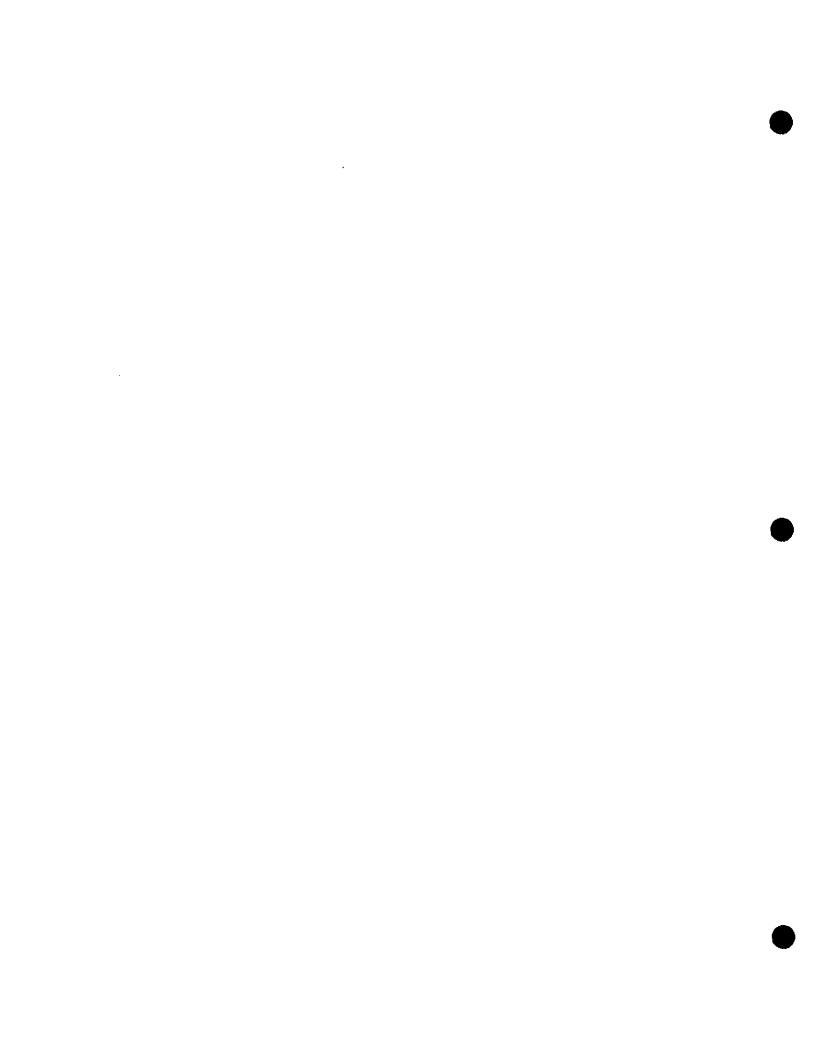
1 representative is here. Would you -2 Representative Cleo Duncan, would you like to say a few words? We certainly welcome you here and 3 it's a privilege to have you with us. REPRESENTATIVE CLEO DUNCAN: Thank you. very pleased to be here today. I didn't know that I would 6 7 be able to be here. I know that the original intent of the 8 legislation was to provide economic development along the 9 Ohio River for the less wealthy of our counties and also I - - a couple things. With the bridge at Markland Dam, 10 11 with Gallatin Steel coming in, with the State of Kentucky 12 committed to improving the road to the bridge, I would urge your support of awarding a license, a riverboat license, to 13 14 Switzerland County and thank you all for coming and being 15 here and thank you for having me. 16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, well, thank you for coming. I think we will take our break now. 17 It's - - We'll take a fifteen minute break. 18 19 That would put us back here at ten minutes of the 20 hour, so . . . 21 (A break was had) 22 We, of course, will end the CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: 23 break. It's getting toward ten o'clock. 24 go to Sherry Houze.

SHERRY HOUZE: I'm Sherry Houze. My nickname is

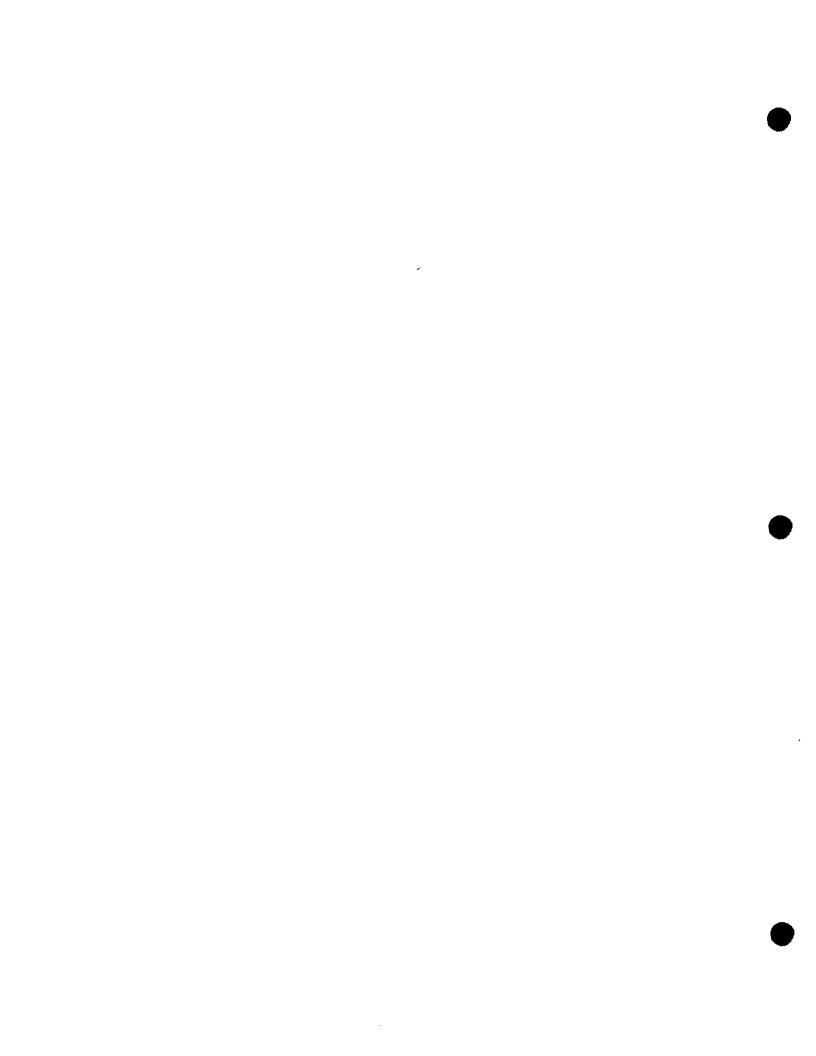
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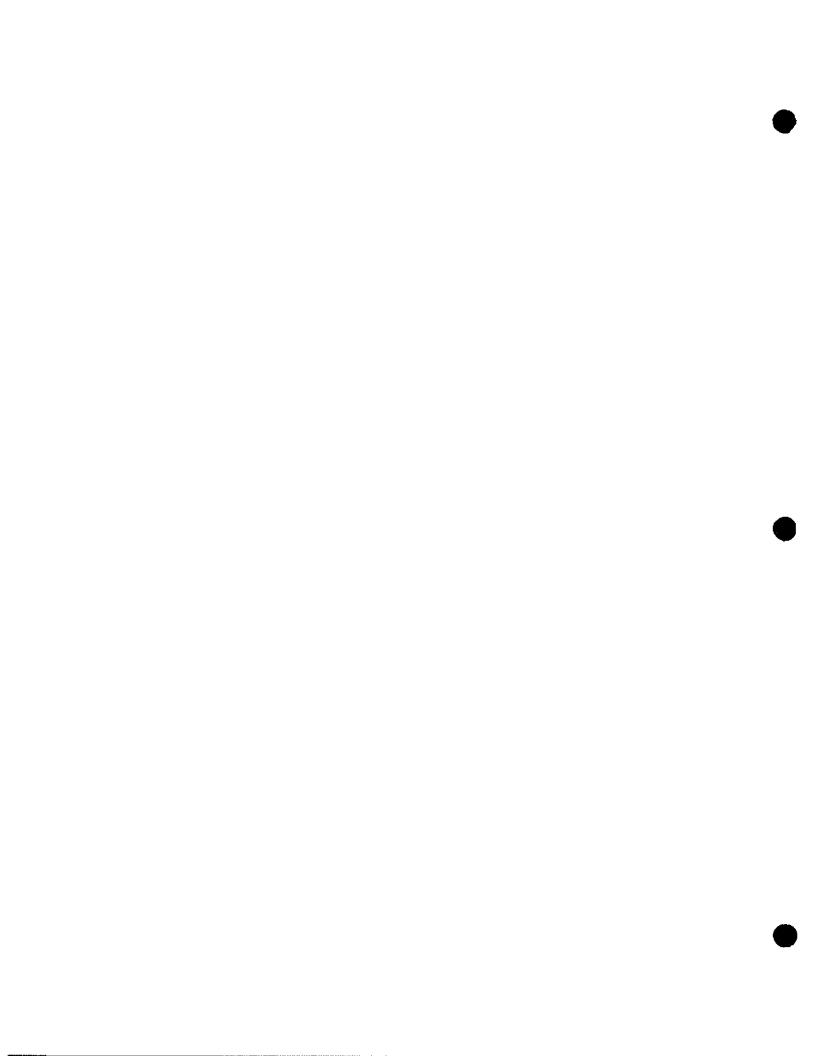
- 1 Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz. That's an inside joke. I'm
- 2 from Highway 56, Vevay, Indiana, and not Kansas. But I
- 3 feel like I've been granted an audience with the Grand
- 4 Wizards of Riverboat Gambling. I have brought - I would
- 5 have brought Toto with me today, but the Ogle Haus doesn't
- 6 allow pets. I have travelled the Yellow Brick Road today
- 7 as a representative of the Ogle Haus, being the banquet
- 8 coordinator here, to tell the Grand Wizards why Switzerland
- 9 County should have a riverboat casino.
- 10 Each comment given here today will be very valid
- 11 for those making their presentations to the Wizards, based
- 12 on what they believe. We at the Ogle Haus Inn understand
- 13 that the gaming commission will, in part, make it's final
- 14 decision based on some of the reasons presented here.
- I would like to present to you some of the
- 16 reasons why we would like to see the riverboat based in our
- 17 county and why we believe it would be a positive venture
- 18 for Switzerland County. Switzerland County, and especially
- 19 Vevay, has long been a tourist attraction. People come
- 20 from all over to enjoy the scenic view of this small, well-
- 21 kept historical rivertown. Vevay was not only held -
- 22 held onto it's historical setting and breathtaking
- 23 landscape, but has incorporated much of the modern
- 24 technologies, which is the essence of survival in today's
- 25 society. Switzerland County residents have shown by their



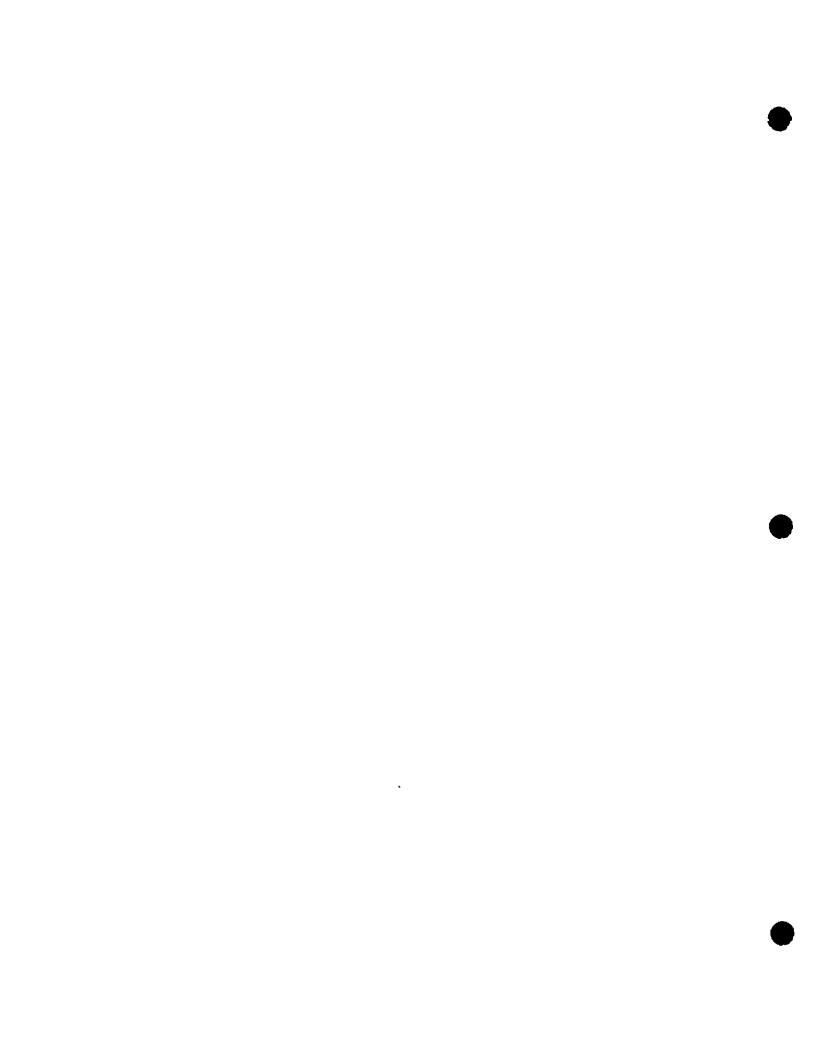
- 1 vote that they are ready and willing now to take on another
- 2 challenge, a riverboat casino.
- 3 It wasn't until just a few short years ago that
- 4 Switzerland County started to realize what it was going to
- 5 take to keep Vevay and the surrounding communities on the
- 6 map, and that's tourism. Through the efforts of the
- 7 county's Chamber of Commerce, the Ogle Haus Inn, Vevay
- 8 Visit Volunteer Organization and other local and city
- 9 groups, Switzerland County's tourism has continued to
- 10 develop to the point that it has gained recognition from
- 11 the state tourism commission. This has not been an easy
- 12 task to achieve, but certainly well worth the effort.
- 13 The Ogle Haus feels that the riverboat casino
- 14 would not only benefit our community and the surrounding
- 15 communities by providing the needed training, education and
- 16 monetary benefits it could offer, but we also feel that by
- 17 placing the riverboat here in Switzerland County, the
- 18 riverboat casino itself would benefit.
- As mentioned before, Vevay has been attracting
- 20 people from all over the country for many years as a
- 21 beautiful, historic rivertown with much to offer tourists.
- 22 With Interstate 71 and 75 accessibility by the Markland Dam
- 23 Bridge, people come from all over to this picturesque
- 24 community nestled in the foothills of Southeastern Indiana
- 25 and the rolling riverbank of the Ohio. Another indication



- 1 that attracting tourists to a riverboat casino in
- 2 Switzerland County would not be a problem is the fact that
- 3 many times it is difficult to make reservations here at the
- 4 Ogle Haus Inn and surrounding bed and breakfasts, because
- 5 we are booked up a year in advance.
- 6 Drawing from personal experiences with groups, a
- 7 new recreation complex and hotel accommodations with a civic
- 8 center would not have any problems at all with booking.
- 9 Businesses and industries from all over the tri-state area,
- 10 Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky, come to the Ogle Haus for
- 11 conventions, training seminars, company parties, bookings
- 12 for private weddings and receptions, family and class
- 13 reunions, are also in constant demand. And let us not
- 14 forget those that come just for the sheer enjoyment of
- 15 Switzerland County's friendly places and smiling faces.
- In recent years, the Wine Festival, which at it's
- 17 peak in the mid-seventies, attracted somewhere in the
- 18 neighborhood of one hundred thousand visitors in a three
- 19 day span. It has begun to steadily grow again. The
- 20 original festival was discontinued due to its overwhelming
- 21 size and growing popularity. The community was not
- 22 prepared to deal with such crowds and problems that
- 23 accompanied such an event. That was twenty years ago. As
- 24 the old saying goes, live and learn. We've lived and
- 25 learned that such a venture as a riverboat casino requires



- 1 extensive planning, organizing and networking with
- 2 professionals from within, as well as outside of our
- 3 community.
- 4 The people of Switzerland County are ready and
- 5 willing to take on this challenge. It has taken a great
- 6 deal of sacrifice and commitment by many people to get
- 7 Switzerland County where it is today. These people have no
- 8 intentions on stopping now with or without a riverboat
- 9 casino. These people, as well as new ones, who now see the
- 10 importance of being involved in the direction of their
- 11 economic future, will continue to plan, organize and strive
- 12 to obtain a common goal, that goal being growth, not just
- 13 in the number of people coming as tourists, but as
- 14 individuals themselves. We will continue to keep building
- on what we have already begun to achieve, that being making
- 16 Vevay and Switzerland County not just a place to stop when
- 17 going from one place to another. No, we are now becoming
- 18 that point. We are a destination. Switzerland County's
- 19 future does not hinge on whether or not it obtains a
- 20 riverboat casino. We will continue to emerge as a place
- 21 where people want to be. We are an attraction all by
- 22 ourselves. A riverboat casino will be another jewel -
- 23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Excuse me. ma'am. Your time
- 24 is up. I'm really sorry.
- 25 MS, HOUZE: Thanks.

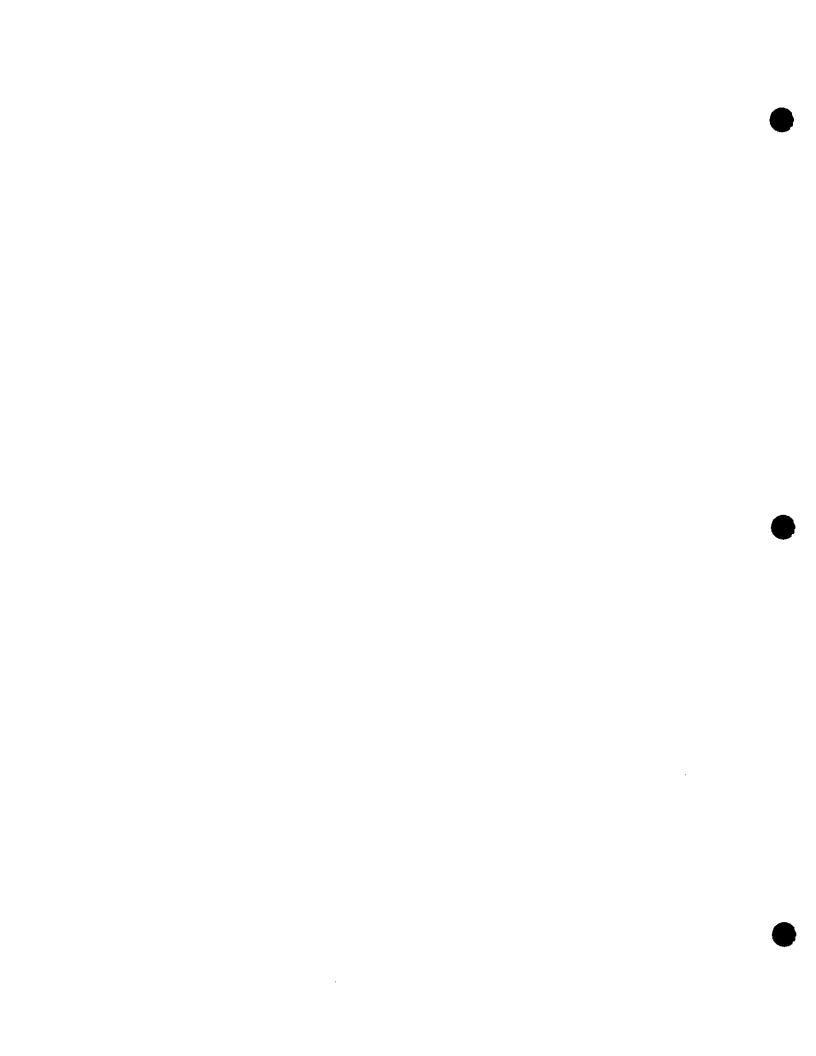


Thank you.

2 EVELINA BROWN: I'm Evelina Brown. I reside at 3 33 Van Brandon Road in Pleasant Township -Pleasant to live there - on a hundred and twenty-five 4 5 acre farm in Switzerland County, Indiana. I'm the County 6 Council Attorney and I've been fortunate to be there when 7 this exciting thing has been happening and, uh, I wanted to 8 let you know that. Also let you know that I served as a chairperson for a steering committee on the Always a River 9 project that you saw a clip of, I think, at the beginning 10 11 of this meeting. 12 I wanted to tell you a little bit more about that That was a grand, grand happening, and hopefully 13 event. some of you got to visit the barge. That was a project 14 that was sponsored by the Humanities of six differ - -15 Humanities Council of six different states, Illinois, 16 Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. 17 18 What it consisted of was a river barge museum that floated 19 down the river from Pittsburg to Cairo. It had twenty-one different docking sites, one of them being Vevay, Indiana. 20 21 Now, what was amazing and what I think is important to tell 22 you very briefly here - we couldn't believe it had in this little town more visitors than any other site, 23 including all of the large cities. We had eight thousand 24 25 people that paid to get onto the barge and we estimated we

CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We've enjoyed it.

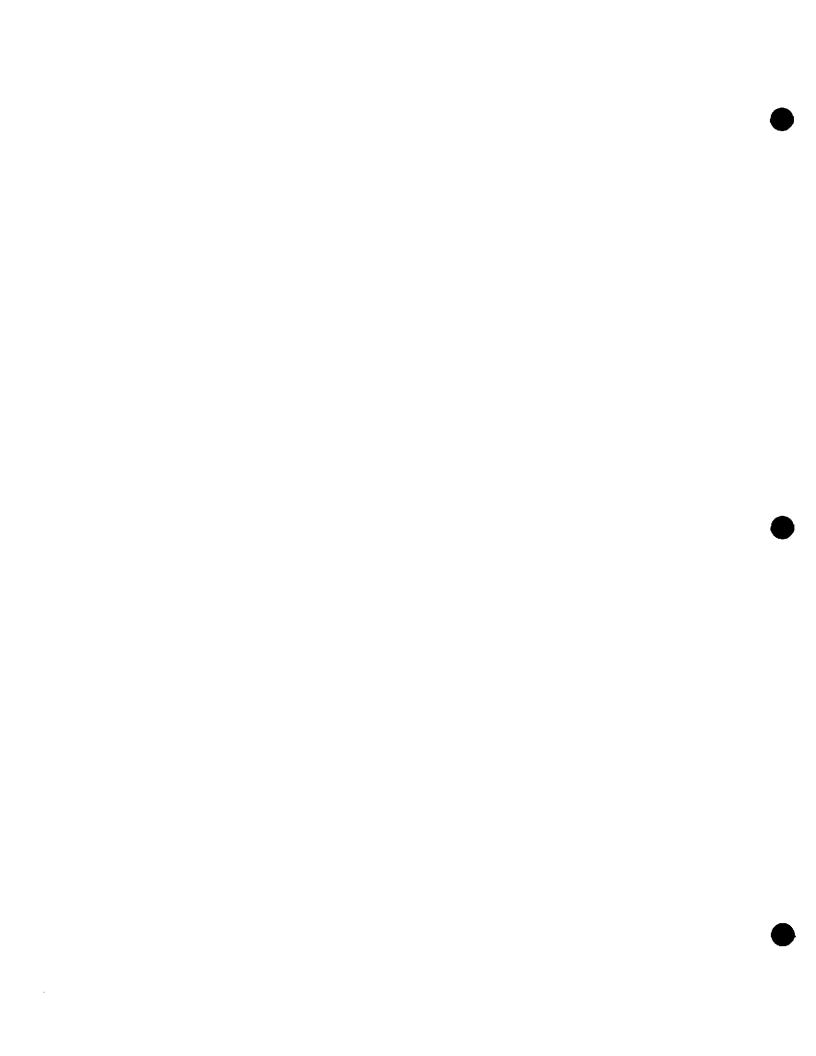
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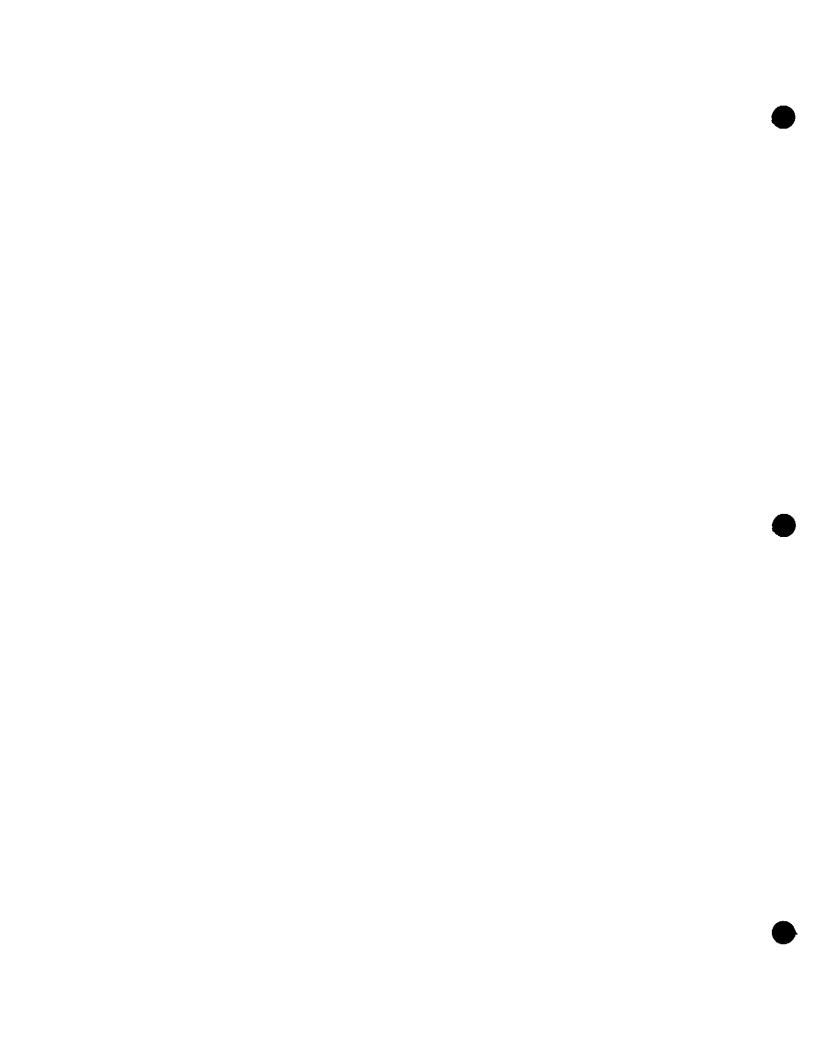
had like two thousand others that we gave complimentary 1 2 passes to that didn't pay. So to compare, the other 3 Indiana site of Mt. Vernon had one thousand visitors. 4 you can see the success. And we were overwhelmed by it and I think lots of people were very surprised. 5 was that so successful here? I think there are many, many 6 7 things that you could attribute it to. I'm not going to I wrote this yesterday in St. Vincent Ŕ 9 Hospital. My husband's recovering from another angioplast. 10 He's had fifteen. Did you know you could have fifteen 11 places ballooned and still function? They put a stint in 12 yesterday. And I'm not telling you that to get sympathy. 13 I'm telling you that so you can see how important it was to 14 me to get here and speak to you this morning and how 15 important this project is - - I mean, it is to us and it 16 is to our sister county of Ohio. And if we don't get it, 17 give it to them, please. You know, both of us - - we both 18 need it. We want it here. We think you should choose Switzerland County and that's why I want to tell you the 19 20 rest of this speech. But anyway, the reason why I think 21 that it was a success here in Switzerland County is 22 location. The Markland Bridge. I mean, we were centrally located. We cooperated with three counties on this side of 23 the river and three on the other side. We had Tremble, 24

Carroll and Gallatin Counties, and Ohio, Switzerland and

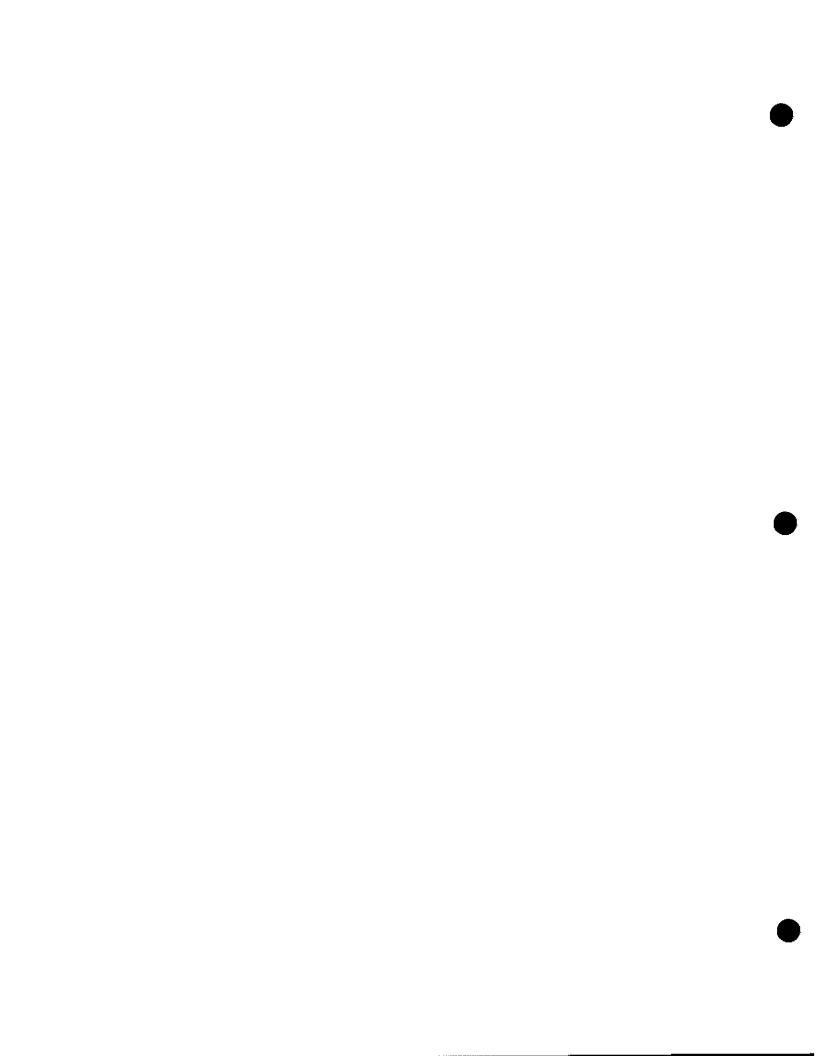
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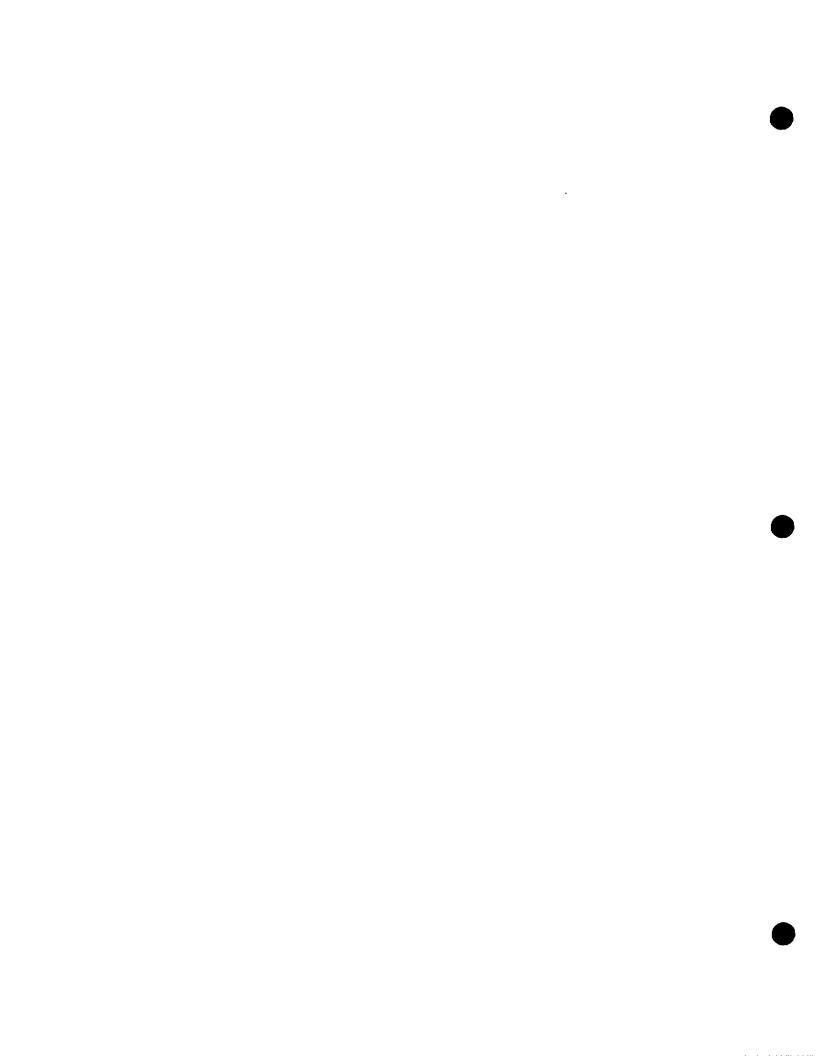
- 1 Jefferson Counties that worked on that project, all the
- 2 historical societies, the schools, the churches, people of
- 3 all the different counties came in and we had all kind of
- 4 wonderful events, like a river belle contest, you had to be
- 5 fifty-five years young to be in it, you had to wear an
- 6 authentic costume, you had to tell your fondest memory of
- 7 the river and that sort of thing. We had cook-offs. We
- 8 had music, drama, music on the streets. It was just a
- 9 grand happening. So I think it was organization.
- 10 We have lots of people - and you've seen some
- 11 of them here. They're dedicated. They've got experience,
- 12 they've drawn thousands of people to our festivals, to the
- 13 Wine Festival and to this one. They know how to get that
- 14 done. They will work with Pinnacle. They will enhance it.
- 15 There will be events that will compliment it. It will be
- 16 very successful. We'll make alot of money for Indiana and
- 17 for our communities, I believe. The other reasons, I
- 18 think, marketing. We didn't have very many dollars back
- 19 then in 1991, but we used those dollars wisely. Think what
- 20 we could do if we had morey enough to market. And it was
- 21 like an established tourism group, Vevay volunteer, Anita
- 22 Danner - you saw how talented she is, and a group that
- 23 worked with her and they - they helped us to get that.
- 24 There was involvement, but mainly location. I think we
- 25 have the place where the riverboat license should be



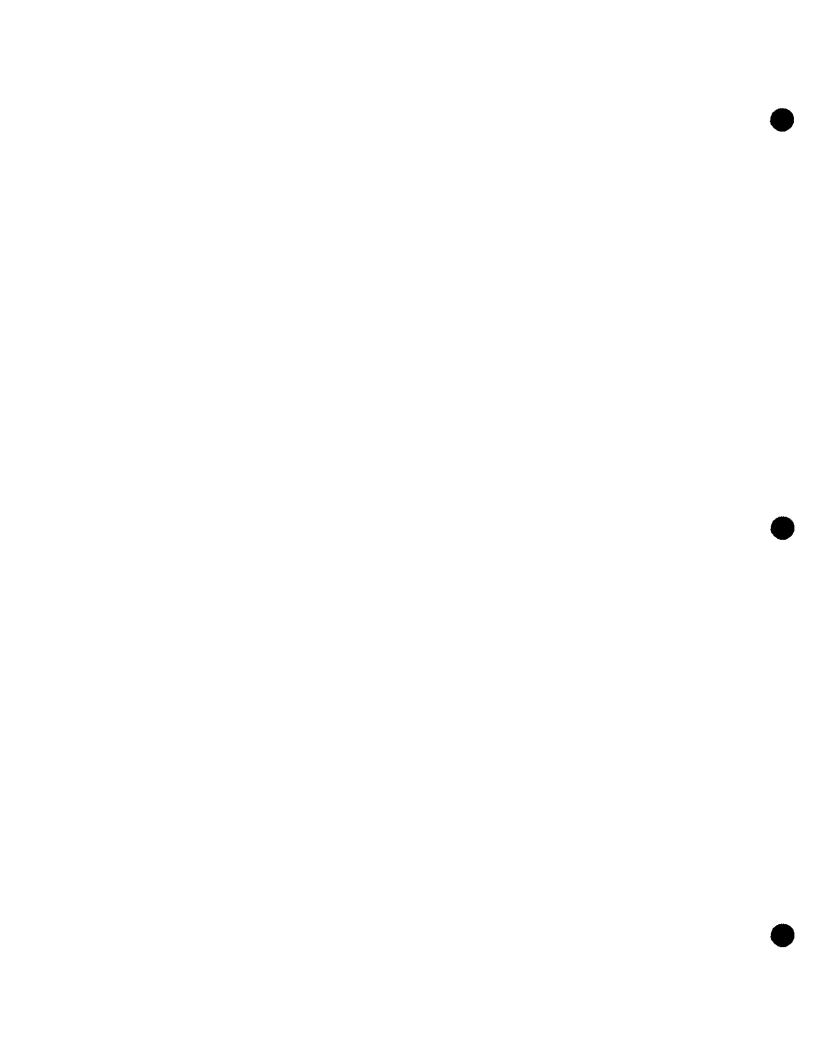
- 1 awarded. Thank you very much.
- 2 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 3 PRESTINE CHAPMAN: My name is Prestine Chapman
- 4 and I'm the Executive Director at the Switzerland County
- 5 Welcome Center, so I want to welcome all of you to
- 6 Switzerland County. I live at 515 Ferry Street, just four
- 7 blocks from my office.
- 8 The welcome center is a full service convention
- 9 and visitor's bureau, serving Switzerland County and the
- 10 Southeastern Indiana region. Approximately minety percent
- 11 of the Switzerland County activities involve marketing in
- 12 some way. We currently rent space in the historic Hoosier
- 13 Theater and operate on a strict budget derived from the
- 14 Indiana Uniform Law Enacted Innkeaper's Tax. The
- 15 Innkeeper's Tax moves directly from the collection point to
- 16 the county auditor's office, then a check is issued to the
- 17 Switzerland County Recreation, Convention and Tourism
- 18 Commission, which oversees all the funds. The Welcome
- 19 Center's cost (indiscernible) approximately pinety-five
- 20 percent of the innkeeper's tax fund. As I said before, the
- 21 welcome center deals mainly with marketing.
- 22 (indiscernible) in June, 1992, coming on board to develop
- 23 a new organization. Since then, the welcome center has
- 24 developed a new full color brochure assisted with the
- 25 expanded visitor's guide and this year aided in the



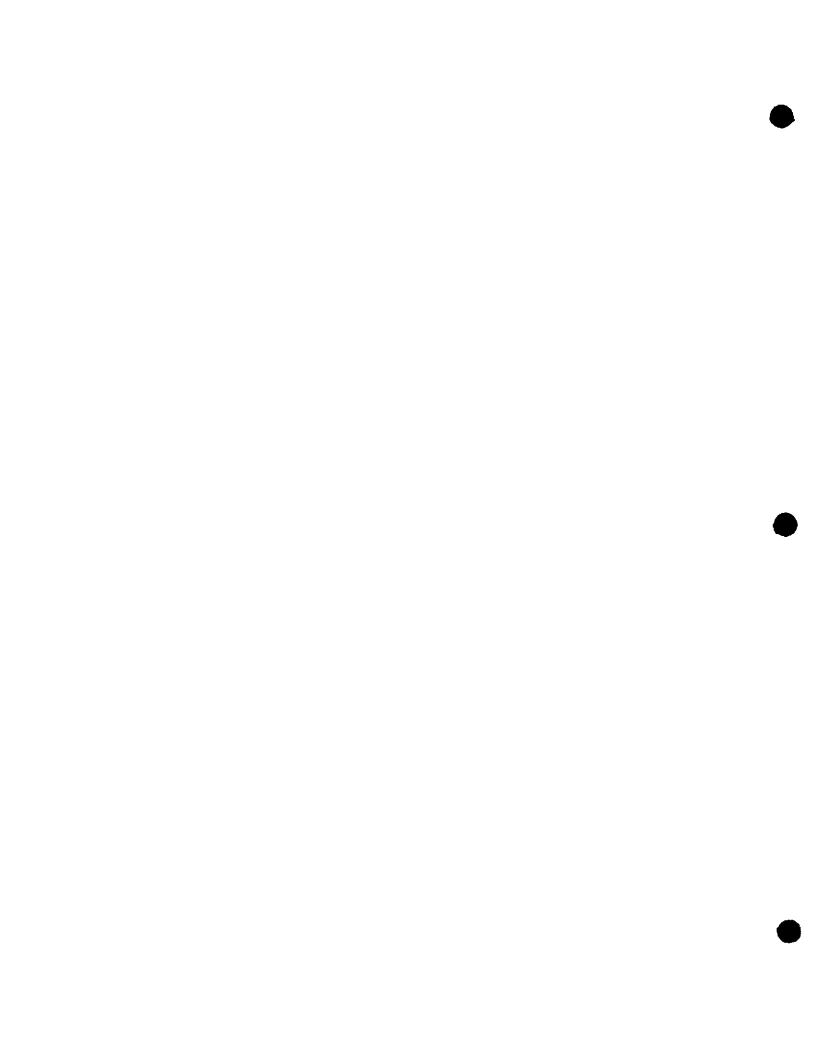
- 1 development of a full color brochure for the Swiss Wine
- 2 Festival. We have supplied the information for many
- 3 newspaper and magazine articles on Switzerland County,
- 4 including this year's fulfillment piece for the Indiana
- 5 Department of Tourism's Regional Guide to South Central
- 6 Indiana.
- 7 The Welcome Center works with several other
- 8 organizations each year to fund and staff booths at
- 9 regional travel shows. Regional cooperation is very
- 10 important to us, so we have supported as many regional
- 11 groups as possible. I am currently on the board of
- 12 Historic Southern Indiana, the President of the Tourism
- 13 Council of Historic Hoosier Hills, which governs tourism in
- 14 an eight county southeastern Indiana area, a member of the
- 15 Association of Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and a
- 16 member of the Ohio River Scenic Route Committee.
- We like to share our wealth when we can with
- 18 other groups in our area. Some of the groups that have
- 19 benefitted from the welcome center's funding include the
- 20 Hoosier Theater, the Switzerland County Historical Museum,
- 21 local merchants and the Chamber of Commerce, to name a few.
- 22 Since the opening of the welcome center in 1992,
- 23 the occupancy rate here at the Ogle Haus has risen from
- 24 sixty-nine percent to eighty percent, which is a good
- 25 indication in the rise in the number of visitors to



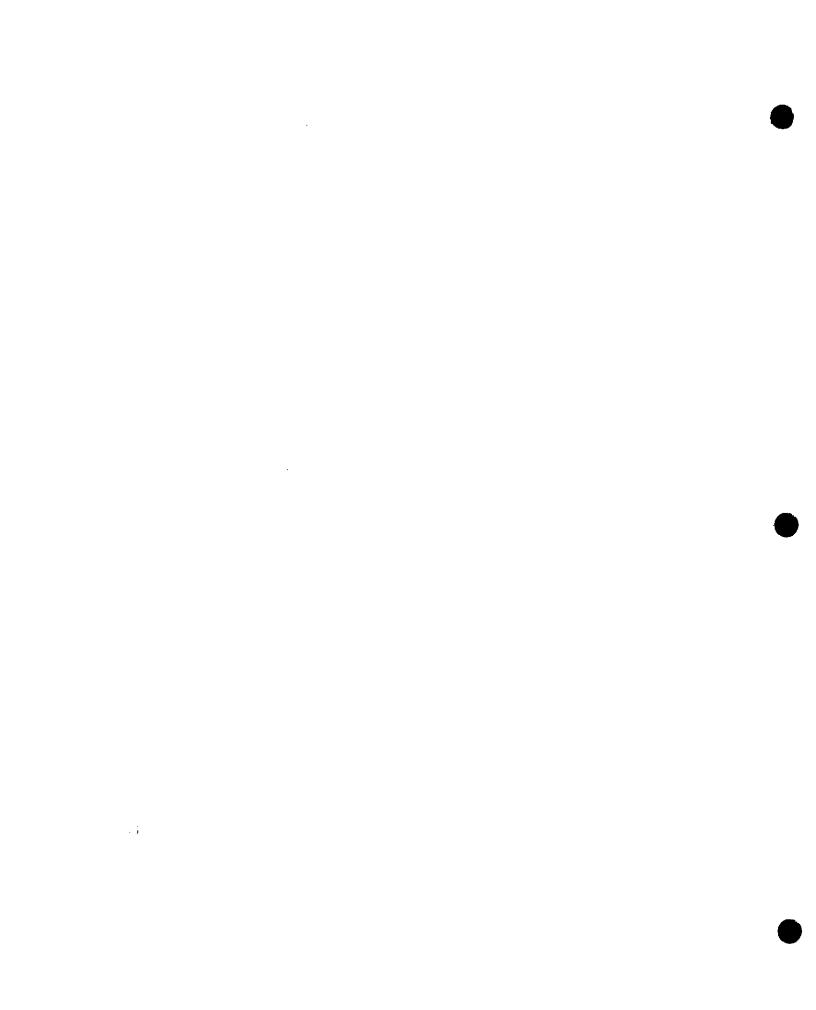
- 1 Switzerland County.
- The Markland Dam Bridge allows access to
- 3 Switzerland County from Louisville, Lexington, Georgetown,
- 4 Frankfort and the Greater Cincinnati area. Bloomington,
- 5 Indianapolis and Columbus have access through I-65 and the
- 6 Ohio River Scenic Route. This access is important now, but
- 7 will be even more so when a riverboat locates in Florence.
- 8 A new interchange ramp is currently planned by the State of
- 9 Kentucky off I-71, just above Gallatin Steel, which is
- 10 located just below the Markland Bridge.
- 11 Location of a riverboat in Florence would bring
- 12 up to six hundred thousand dollars per year in new funds to
- 13 the tourism commission. These funds will be used to
- 14 relocate and to purchase new equipment for our main office.
- 15 A new satellite office will be permanently located at the
- 16 riverboat site and will be staffed by a new employee, a
- 17 group tour manager. A new secretary will also be hired to
- 18 assist the executive director in daily operations.
- 19 A long range plan is currently in a developmental
- 20 stage. This plan is prepared in anticipation of riverboat
- 21 gaming funds, but it is also a plan that will address the
- 22 issue of riverboat gaming longevity.
- 23 Pinnacle Gaming will bring nine hundred and
- 24 minety-five new jobs to Switzerland County, which is very
- 25 important to our area. The people who live here do not



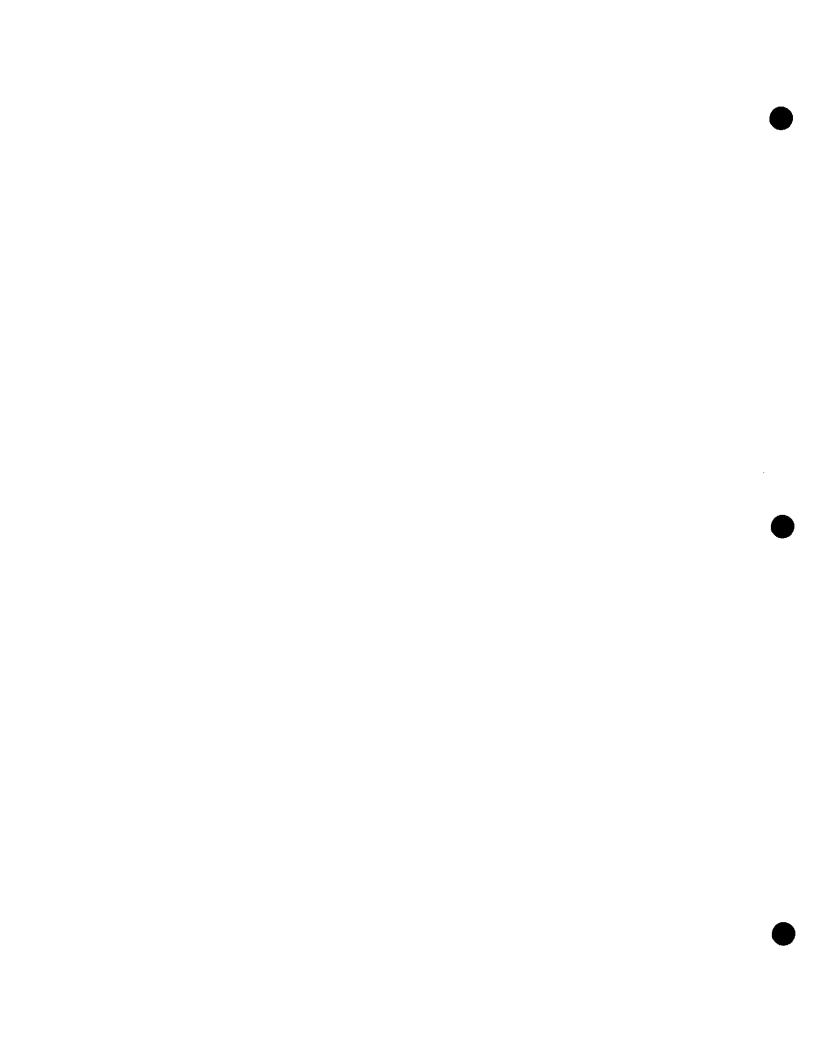
- 1 always qualify for high paying jobs and the training
- 2 provided by the riverboat company will not only upgrade
- 3 employment skills, but will also build pride in our
- 4 citizens. Riverboat gaming means tourism, jobs and growth
- 5 for Switzerland County. Thank you.
- 6 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: I have one
- 7 question. I don't know if you're the person to
- 8 answer it. You've just stated that there is to
- 9 be a interchange off 71 someplace?
- 10 MS. CHAPMAN: Yes.
- 11 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: And do you know
- what stage that project is in? I know it's a
- 13 Kentucky project, but does anybody know exactly
- 14 what's happening?
- MS. CHAPMAN: I did call about that yesterday and
- it will be - it is anticipated to be in place
- 17 or started, anyway, sometime within the next five
- 18 years and that's as far as I can find out from
- 19 Carrollton.
- 20 QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Was this a
- 21 commitment that Kentucky made to the steel people
- 22 before they put their plant in, is that my
- 23 understanding, or do you know anything about
- 24 that?
- 25 ANITA DANNER: The land has been purchased.



1	MS. CHAPMAN: Yeah.
2	ANITA DANNER: And that is a committment that
3	Kentucky made for those businesses located along
4	the Ohio River to give them a faster access to
5	the river road. Right now you have to get off at
6	Carrollton or at Warsaw or at Glencoe and travel
7	a country road, so this is a direct access.
8	MS. CHAPMAN: When I called Carrollton yesterday,
9	the Economic Development Director there said that
10	it is a necessary thing to bring that access ramp
11	off I-71 to Gallatin Steel, because so many new
12	companies have located up and down that area that
13	it is a necessary item.
14	QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: But you don't know
15	whether that is a firm commitment by Kentucky to
16	- <del>-</del>
17	MS. CHAPMAN: It has been It has been
18	promised to the people who own businesses along
19	that river, yeah.
20	QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Is that everyone's
21	understanding of the status of where we are on
22	that?
23	MIKE JONES: Chairman Kineman: I understand from
24	talking to officials in Kentucky with the
25	Department of Transportation that it has been



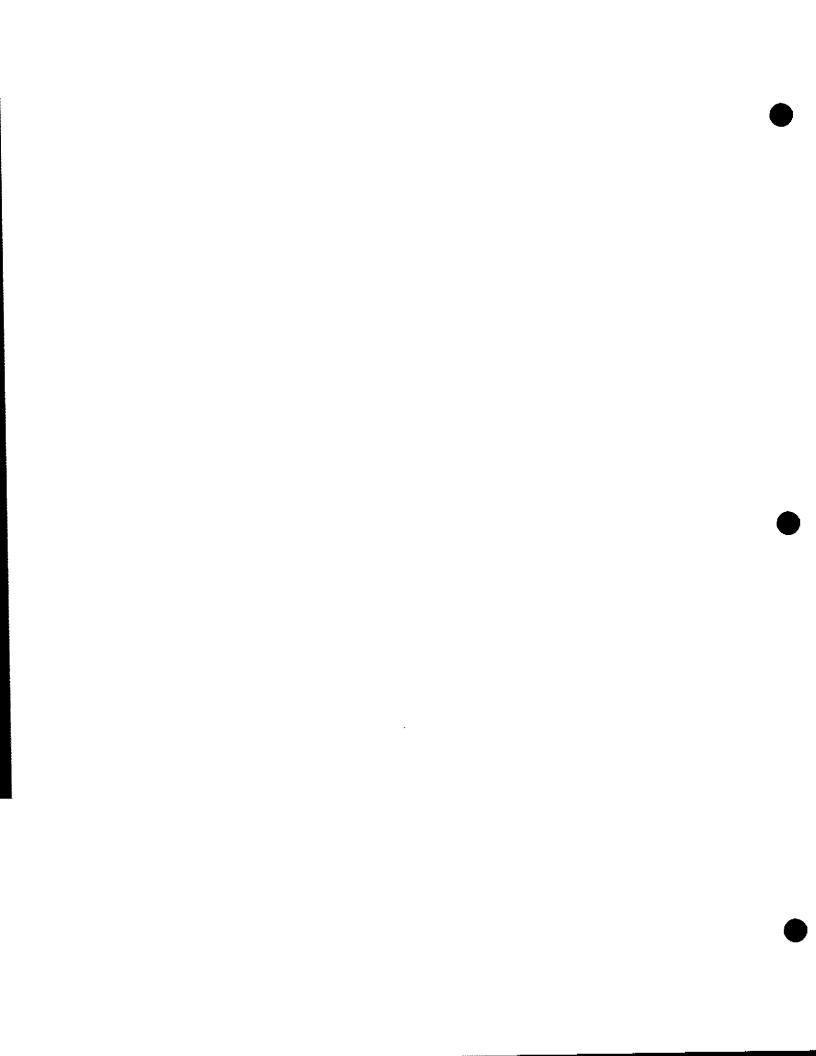
1	funded and it is part of an incentive package
2	that was offered to those new companies.
3	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Anyone else have any
4	questions?
5	QUESTION BY JACK THAR: Is there a time line on
6	that, that you know of?
7	MIKE JONES: I think she was right
8	MS. CHAPMAN: Within five years.
9	MIKE JONES: when she said within five years
10	completion.
11	QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: And opening up of
12	the interchange, then they have to build the
13	access road, too, is that my or is the
14	access road in place?
15	ANITA DANNER: You're only talking two miles.
16	MIKE JONES: Yeah, it's Chairman Kineman,
17	it is a short distance. You say two miles?
18	ANITA DANNER: Yeah, 'cause you go straight.
19	MIKE JONES: But my understand from the Kentucky
20	Department of Transportation was that five years
21	was the time for it to be completely open.
22	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Any other questions? Okay,
23	thank you. We're now moving into the portion of
2 4	our schedule which was to be after the break that
25	we took early. Esther Crepin?



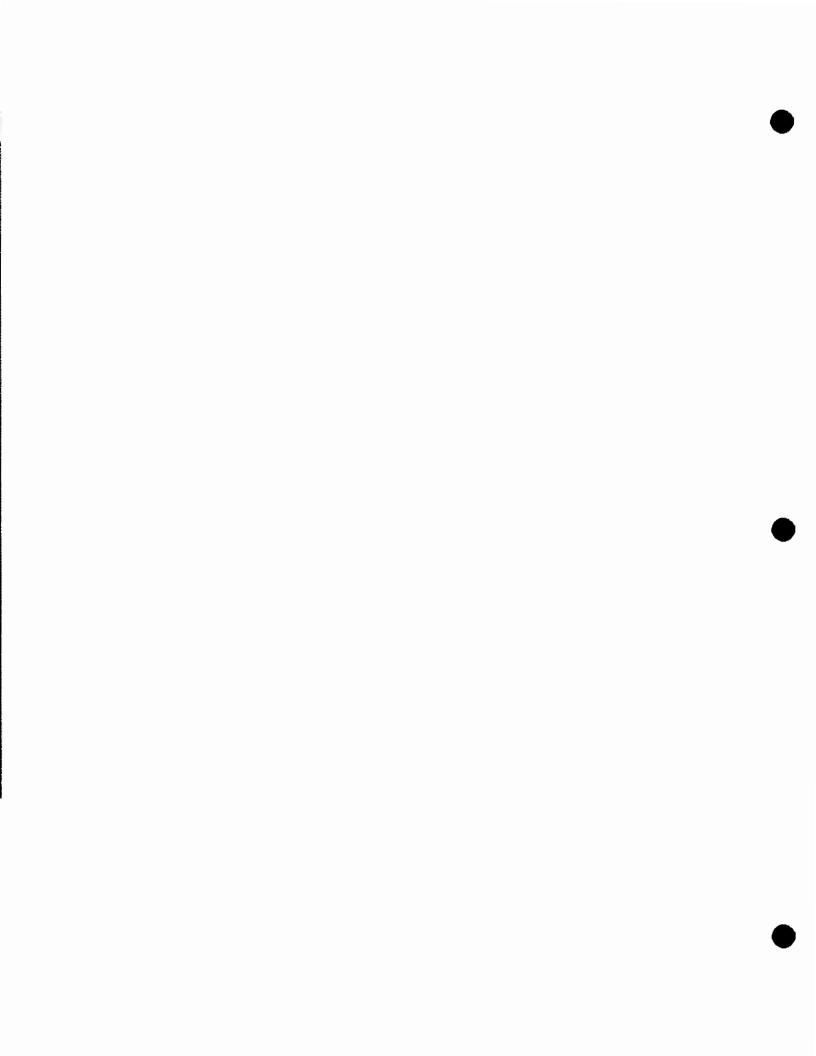
- 1 ESTHER CREPIN: That's Esther Crepin. I know
- 2 it's hard to figure that name out. I want to thank you for
- 3 being able to address the Commission today and I'd like to
- 4 share some of my personal views, along with some statistics
- 5 I've come up with.
- 6 Thirty to forty years ago many of us in this room
- 7 can remember when gambling was a vice on equal plain with
- 8 prostitution. How quickly we forget. Today gambling
- 9 promotion has become a key to state budget balancing. How
- 10 did this happen? We legalized to ease our conscience. If
- 11 upbeat predictions are abundant, it's apparent reliable
- 12 information is in short supply. A few years ago, no
- 13 gambling was legal in Indiana, but suddenly almost anything
- 14 goes. It is far from clear that local officials are ready
- to lead their communities, including our young people, into
- 16 the world of slot machines and roulette wheels.
- 17 Is anyone doing any market research? Here are
- 18 some facts. Riverboats seem to have had, at best, a
- 19 negligible effect on the employment base in rivertowns.
- 20 The unemployment rates in Alton, Joliette, Peoria and Rock
- 21 Island, Illinois, were higher in March of 1993 than in
- 22 March of 1991. Alton, for instance, had an 8.5 percent
- 23 unemployment rate in March of 1991, and a year later, about
- 24 six months after the Alton Belle opened, the city's jobless
- 25 rate had climbed to 9.7 percent. In March of 1993, it had

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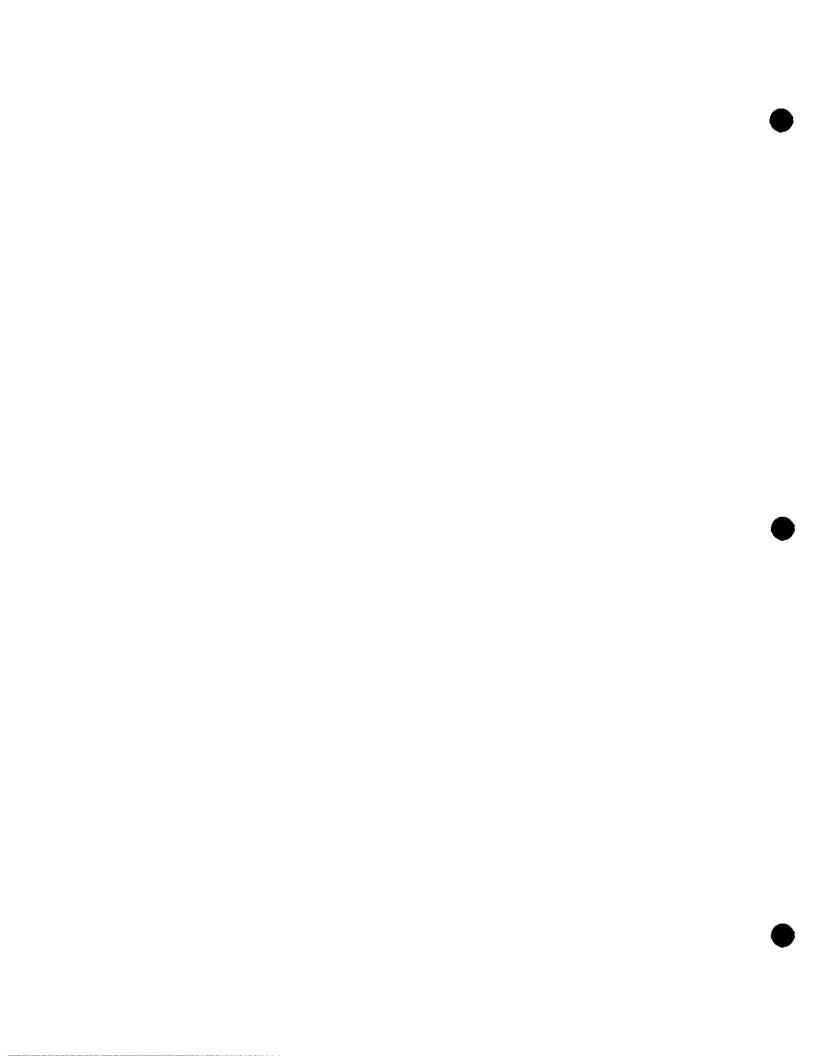
- 1 risen to eleven percent.
- 2 Central City, Colorado, it opened it's doors to
- 3 gambling in 1991. Central City's costs to support the
- 4 casino industry for more police, building inspectors, city
- 5 planners and other officials, have soured. Central City's
- 6 debt has expanded from five hundred thousand in 1988 to
- 7 twenty million today. Central City's city manager, Jack
- 8 Title, says, and I quote: "I'd tell anyone who was
- 9 thinking of opening their community to casino gambling to
- 10 have his head examined. First comes the boon, then comes
- 11 the bust."
- 12 Two major factors for considering riverboat
- 13 gambling for any community has been the promises of jobs
- 14 and money. Casinos don't deliver what they promise, in
- 15 particular, the myth that depressed areas can recapture
- 16 economic vitality.
- In New Jersey, with the lottery and twelve
- 18 casinos, the state earns only six percent of it's revenues
- 19 through gambling. Unemployment has not changed, taxes have
- 20 increased. Street crime, rape, larsony, assault and auto
- 21 theft have gone up three hundred percent.
- 22 Clinton, Iowa, with a population of thirty
- 23 thousand dollars. City records show no increase or
- 24 decrease in the city's tax revenue since the boat arrived
- 25 in 1991. Tax money has flowed into the community, three



- hundred and seventeen thousand dollars since the boat
- 2 opened, yet that money did not cover the cost of three
- 3 hundred and fifty thousand dollars it took to put in water
- 4 and sewer lines to the boat's dockside.
- 5 Deadwood, South Dakota, on Main Street, a
- 6 department store, a woman's clothing store, a shoe store,
- 7 a drug store, and two hardware stores, have been shut down.
- 8 In their stead there are novelty and gift shops and
- 9 casinos. "You can't buy a pair of socks in downtown
- 10 Deadwood", states a local resident. Even the Mayor
- 11 Overlander states, "The greed factor is definitely here."
- 12 Cripple Creek, Colorado, a historic town, tourism
- 13 is down thirty-five percent. Most local stores sold to
- 14 casinos, others were boarded up and abandoned. Four
- 15 casinos have closed due to overcrowding.
- 16 Fort Madison, Iowa, two riverboat gambling owners
- 17 pulled out leaving the community with six hundred local
- 18 unemployed and a 2.6 million debt to riverfront
- 19 development.
- Finally, casino owners have used economic
- 21 leverage against state legislatures. Right now, in
- 22 Atlantic City, for example, the new law - the first law
- 23 gave them one casino; now they have eleven major casinos
- 24 and twenty-four hour operation. It is extremely important
- 25 to note that virtually every avenue where casinos operate



- 1 constant efforts have succeeded in expanding casino
- 2 operations beyond the original purpose. Casino operations
- 3 in Iowa and Illinois this very day both are now threatening
- 4 to abandon these states unless the legislatures rescind
- 5 restrictions.
- The carrot dangled in front of our nose would
- 7 eventually become a noose around our neck. Friends, this
- 8 is a price too high to pay.
- 9 Let me share something personally. Proverbs 22:1
- 10 says: A good name is rather to be chosen than great
- 11 riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Excuse me, ma'am.
- MS. CREPIN: Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Yeah, thank you very much.
- Toni Allen?
- 16 TONI ALLEN: Hi. My name is Toni Allen and I
- 17 live at 25 Fishing Worm Ridge in Switzerland County, Vevay.
- 18 Living outside of Atlantic City, New Jersey, for
- 19 fifteen years, I got to watch the steady deterioration of
- 20 Atlantic City and it's surrounding areas after the casinos
- 21 started in 1978. Prime farm land sprouted condos, malls
- 22 and development. Local family businesses closed down and
- 23 were replaced by chain stores and families lost their homes
- 24 and moved away. Local people became victims to increased
- 25 traffic accidents, mostly caused by drunk driving. They

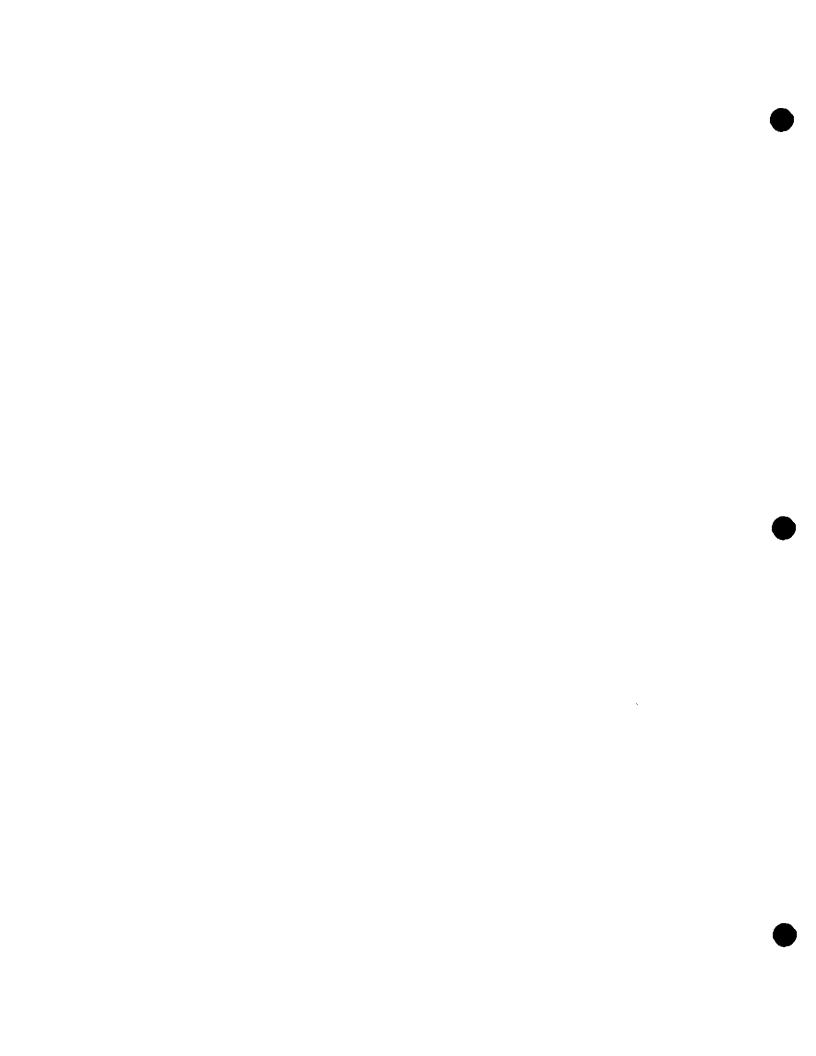


were victims of robberies, rapes, vandalisms and batteries. 1 2 Taxes rose, crime rates rose, pollution in lakes, the 3 rivers and the ocean increased and welfare costs 4 skyrocketed. The area became overpopulated, overtaxed and 5 overregulated. From 1976 to 1992, Atlantic City's police 6 budget tripled to twenty-four million dollars while it's 7 local population decreased by twenty percent. During the 8 first three years of casino qambling Atlantic City, in per capita crime, went from fiftieth to the first among U.S. 9 cities. Sixty-one percent of those crimes were related to 10 11 casinos and three out of six mayors were arrested and jailed for corruption. Atlantic City lost one-half of it's 12 population in a decade and one hundred out of two hundred 13 and fifty restaurants closed down in 1978 alone. 14 15 came out to gamble, not to shop, and the industry sucked 16 money out οf local theaters, clothing shops, dealerships and restaurants. Private rescue missions went 17 18 from helping fifteen people a day to helping five hundred 19 people a day. And despite the fact that New Jersey has 20 horse racing, lottery and twelve casinos, the state earns only six percent of revenue through the gambling. Casinos 21 in Atlantic City did not alleviate the problems there; it 22

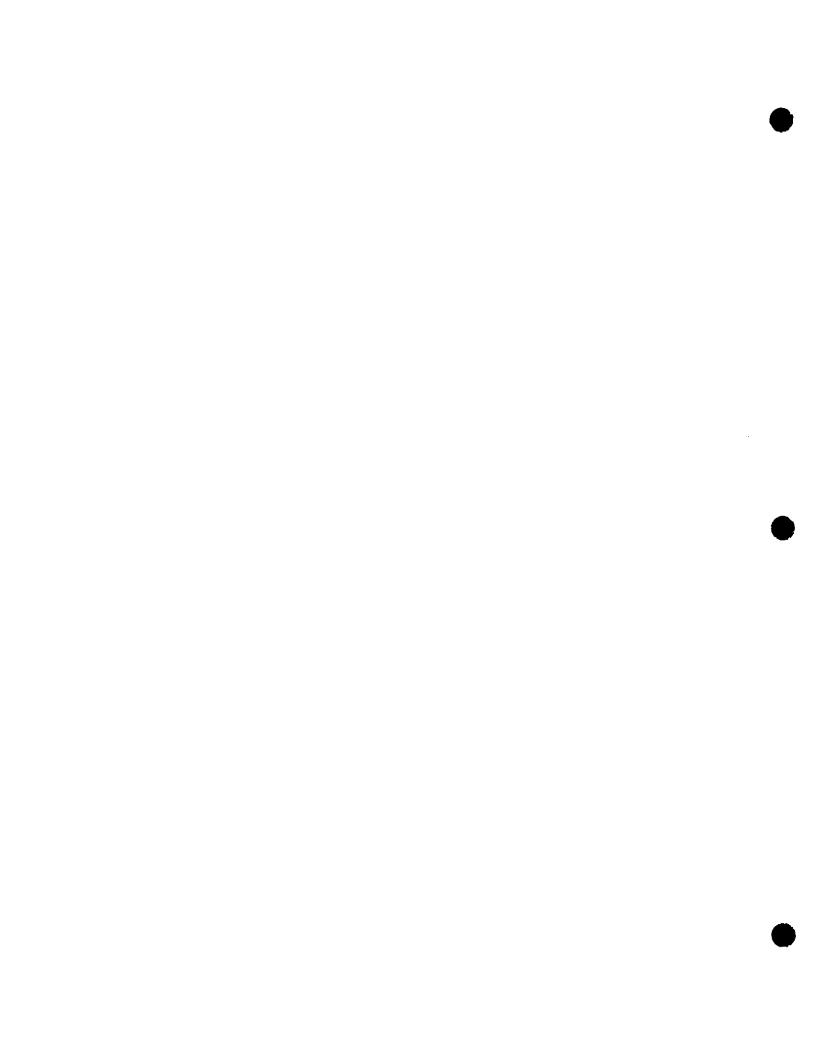
created more. The slums are still there, two blocks from 24 There is more crime, more problems with the casinos.

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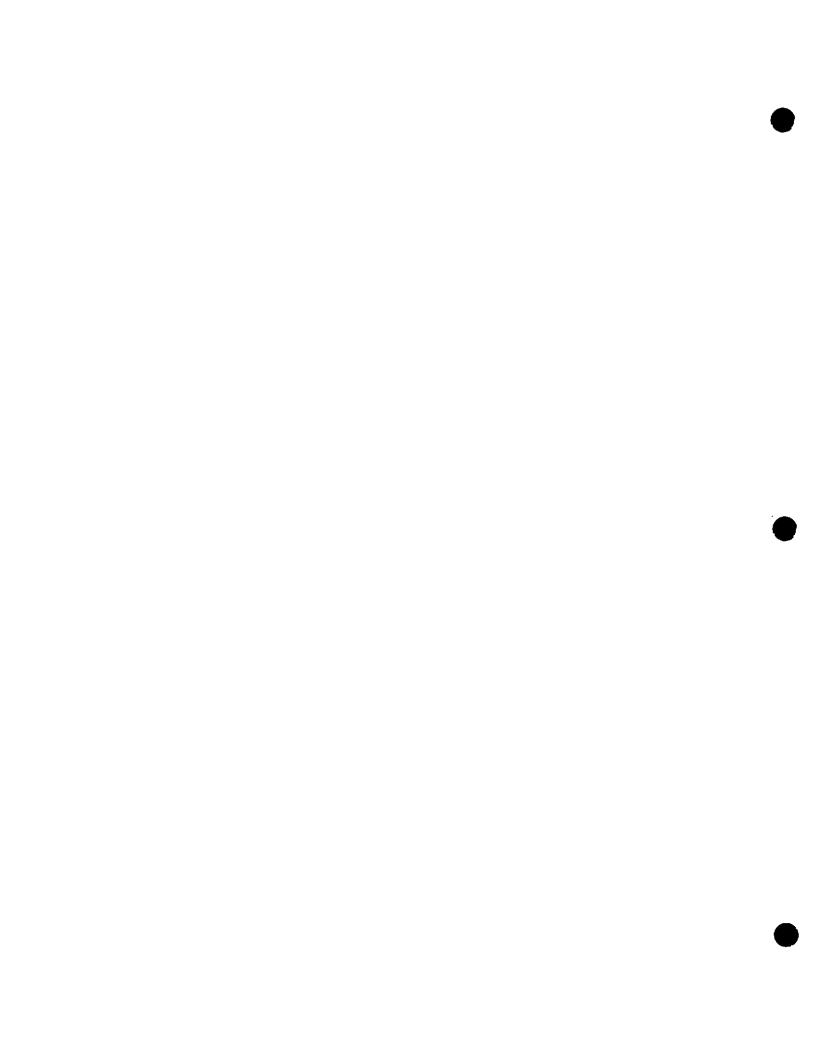
alcohol and drugs, more prostitution and related diseases. 25



- 1 The point is, the people did not - of the community did
- 2 not benefit from it.
- 3 It's true that Switzerland County does not have
- 4 much wealth in dollars, but it is a great asset to the
- 5 state of Indiana for it's beauty, peacefulness and history.
- 6 There are not many places left where we can raise our
- 7 children that are good and wholesome. People come here to
- 8 retire and others come in from the cities to escape the
- 9 ratrace lifestyle of overpopulated areas. It's a unique
- 10 little oasis to the hustle bustle of other communities.
- 11 Since my family moved here three years ago, five
- 12 other new families have moved into our neighborhood alone.
- 13 Switzerland County has been experiencing a slow, but steady
- 14 and healthy growth. Being mostly a farming community,
- 15 there's no infrastructure to support at this time a sudden
- 16 and great influx of people and I feel a floating casino
- 17 would cause a guick boom that would be followed by a bust,
- 18 stagnating real estate and other related businesses.
- 19 feel that the people of this county who have high hopes and
- 20 expectations of a riverboat casino will be greatly
- 21 disappointed, that the recent buyout of Paradice is a
- 22 perfect example of how quickly things change and how little
- 23 control the people of Switzerland County will have over a
- 24 big business, like riverboat gambling.
- For these reasons, I ask the Commission this



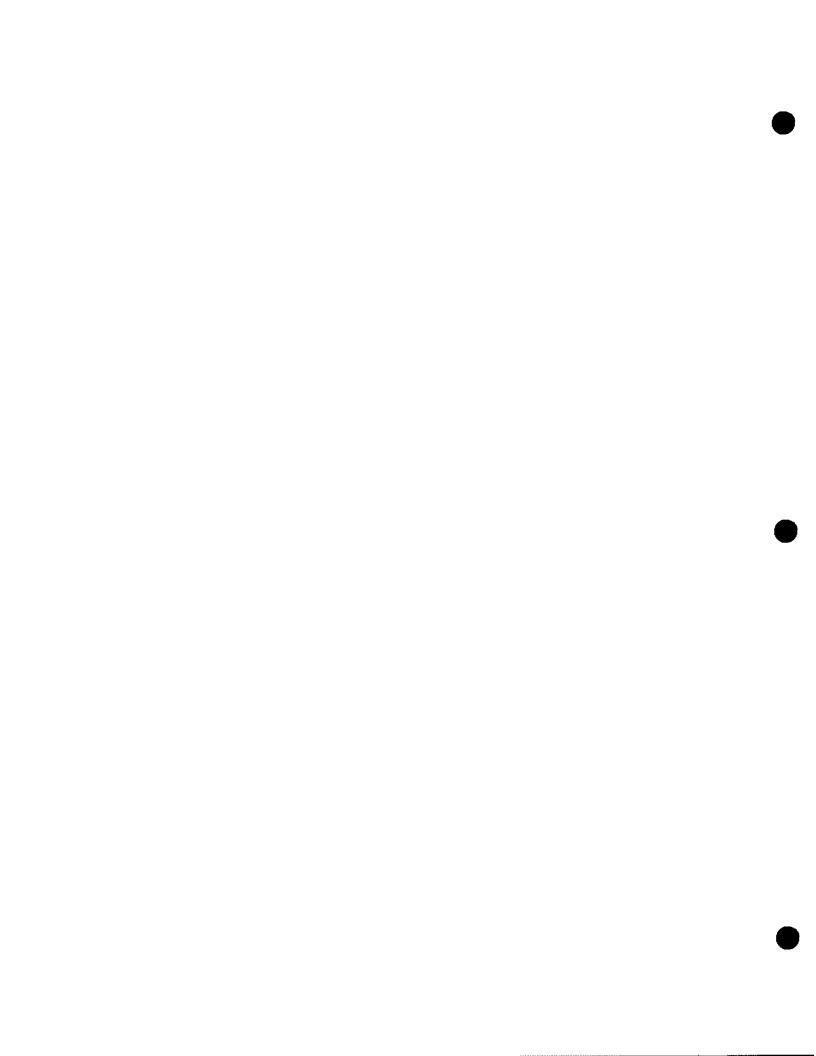
- question in making their decision for the location of a
- 2 gaming license: Why take a relatively safe, peaceful,
- 3 clean environment and turn it into another problem
- 4 community? If the state wants to help Switzerland County,
- 5 then help us preserve it's good qualities, not destroy
- 6 them. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Mr. Goble?
- 8 ED GOBLE: Good morning and thank you for coming,
- 9 to the Commission. I appreciate you coming to Switzerland
- 10 County. Let me clarify. I'm former state representative
- 11 Ed Goble. I had Switzerland County in my district
- 12 originally back in 1970 when I was first elected and one of
- 13 the issues at that time was, we need a bridge across the
- 14 river at Markland Dam and we were eventually successful
- 15 with that and my Republican colleague friends chose to
- 16 redistrict me out of Switzerland County and I ended up up
- 17 at Bartholomew County, instead of Switzerland County. So
- 18 I have changed alot as district wide, but eventually I came
- 19 back when I had the opportunity. I redistricted myself
- 20 back to Switzerland County. And I can recall the debate in
- 21 the House regarding riverboat gaming. The legislators from
- 22 Gary were very adamant about the need for that opportunity.
- 23 Thousands of people were leaving Gary. The industries up
- 24 there were not doing well. And they wanted that
- 25 opportunity and they fought very hard and I was the House



- 1 Majority Whip for four years and helped them get the votes
- 2 necessary to pass riverboat gaming, the opportunity being
- 3 there for the counties along the river to vote it either up
- 4 or down, not a moral issue, but whether or not they wanted
- 5 riverboat gaming.
- I'd like to read to you just briefly out of the
- 7 Bill itself, section seven: In granting a license under
- 8 this chapter, the Commission may give favorable
- 9 consideration to the following: one, economically
- 10 depressed areas of Indiana - I think Switzerland
- 11 County, if you would check, would certainly qualify -
- 12 and then two, applicants presenting plans that provide for
- 13 significant economic development over a large geographic
- 14 area. They have done that. Switzerland County Council has
- 15 passed a resolution sharing their revenue with seven
- 16 counties, and I'm told that several of those counties
- 17 already have accepted that and voted in favor of that.
- 18 I-71 is just across the river and access to
- 19 Switzerland County, because the bridge is there, it goes
- 20 both ways and we think that the opportunity for people to
- 21 come to the boat would certainly be there.
- The jobs is what I'm really concerned about here,
- 23 because, you know, we hear talk of divorces in Switzerland
- 24 County. The divorce rate is extremely high. You only need
- 25 to go to the local school and find that out. I believe

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- that if jobs are available, families tend to stay together.
- 2 It's devastating to be fired or laid off and not have a job
- 3 and be able to provide for your family. So I think it's
- 4 extremely important that they have that opportunity here in
- 5 Switzerland County. I'm not here to debate the moral
- 6 issue, but I certainly think that the jobs are certainly
- 7 important and a boat will allow access to those jobs and
- 8 economic development, which is certainly needed.
- 9 And let me just point out to the Commission one
- 10 other thing and I think which is important. Down on the
- 11 Governor's desk today is Senate Bill 572 and House Bill
- 12 1722. Both of those passed overwhelmingly, calling for one
- 13 boat per county. I really believe the intent of this
- 14 legislation was to allow that economic development in those
- 15 depressed areas; that certainly proved that.
- The question should not be, where can the State
- 17 put a boat to make the most money or the greatest amount of
- 18 money for the state. The question should be, where can the
- 19 boat be located which gives the greatest impact on local
- 20 areas for economic development and creation of jobs.
- 21 appreciate your support for Switzerland County.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you, Mr. Goble.
- QUESTION BY ANN BOCHNOWSKI: Can I ask a
- 24 question?
- MR. GOBLE: Go ahead, sure.



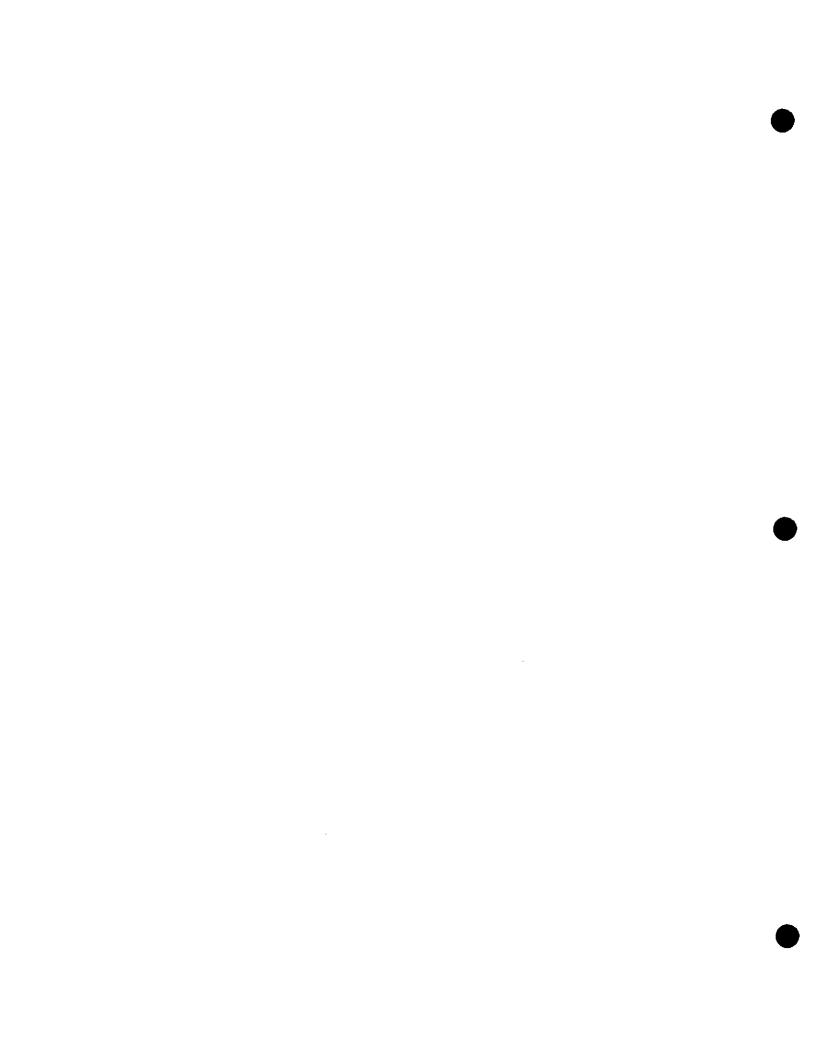
1	QUESTION BY ANN BOCHNOWSKI: You didn't address
2	this, but we talked about the access over the
3	Markland Dam Bridge. Something that came up
4	before and maybe you can answer it or somebody
5	else Somebody mentioned that a boat
6	would actually be able to cruise in Indiana
7	waters easily in that location
8	MR. GOBLE: I have a river chart that was
9	provided for me by a realtor, of all places, from
10	Kentucky and I went to his office to look at
11	that, because that was a question, and it's my
12	understanding that there's six hundred and sixty
13	foot of right-of-way on the Indiana side above
14	the dam and someone locally here can answer that
15	better, but he showed me the charts and then,
16	also, up river for four or five miles, so there
17	is cruising ability on the Indiana side, in my
18	understanding, if the charts that he showed me
19	are accurate and when I looked at them, he
20	showed me the locations and I have no reason to
21	doubt those charts. Those were U.S. Coast Guard
22	charts.
23	MS. BOCHNOWSKI: Okay. That was something that's
2 <b>4</b>	come up before and I think it's a real concern.
25	MR. GOBLE: Yes.

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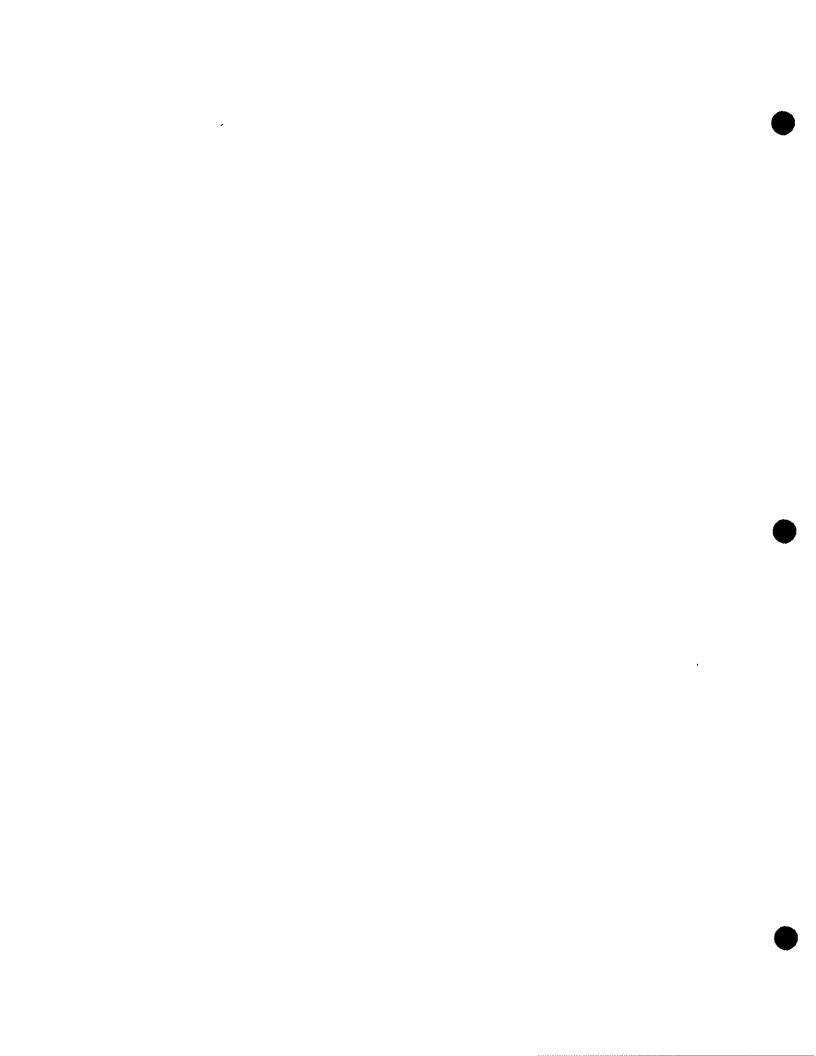
1	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Mr. Goble, I guess you
2	probably know that this Commission has employed
3	IUPUI to evaluate the economic development that
4	each one of the applicants in any location have -
5	- would have if they were granted a license, so
6	this Commission has been well aware of the
7	legislative intent in that regard and we look at
8	those reports very carefully and the multiples
9	that they provide, as far as employment and so
10	forth, so we are aware of that aspect. And the
11	income to the state by way of tax revenue is way
12	down on our list. We want to create jobs.
13	ED GOBLE: Well, I understand, Mr. Chairman. I
14	understand that, uh, at one of the committee
15	meetings that I was at the people who were
16	proposing the two boats was talking in terms of
17	making a great deal more money for the state, so
18	I just simply wanted to point out that that is
19	not, as you understand, the important criteria
20	here.
21	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Well, thank you.

22 ED GOBLE: Thank you.

23 HERBERT ROHMANN: My name is Herbert Rohmann. I live at 65 Varble Lane here in Vevay. And Mr. Chairman and 24 ladies and gentlemen of the Indiana Gaming Commission, I 25

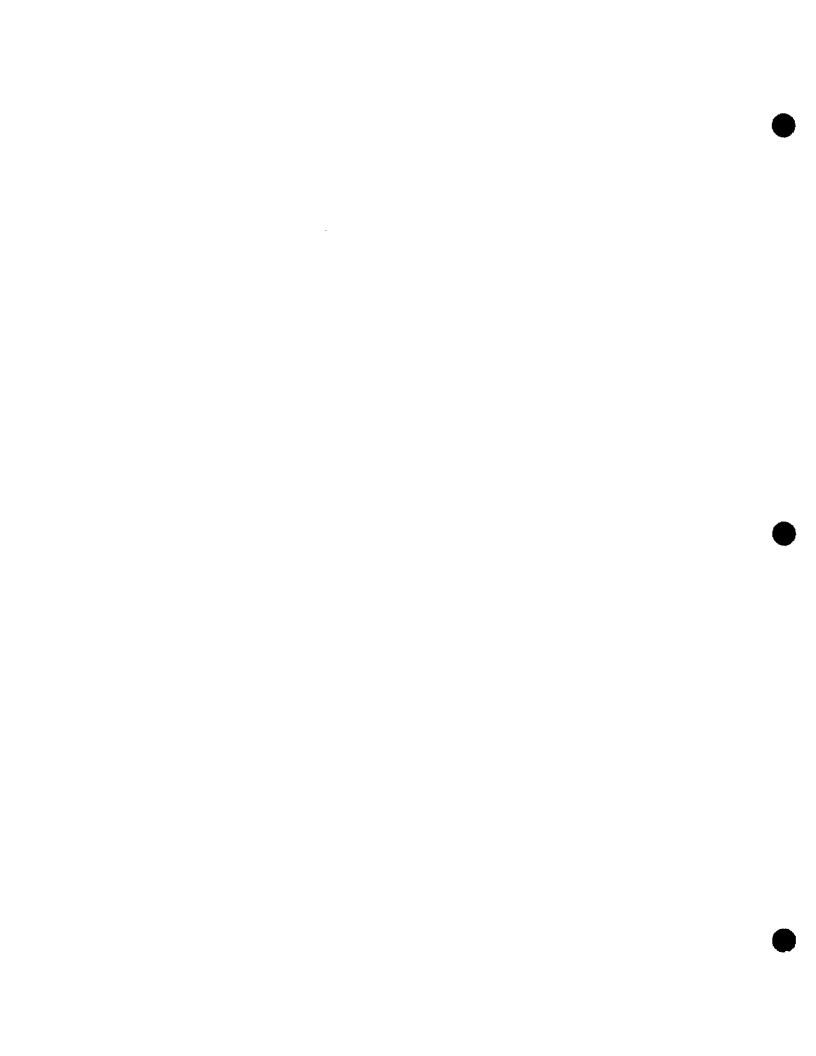


- appreciate the opportunity to present you with data and
- 2 conclusions that I have gathered regarding gambling and
- 3 poverty as a trained researcher. My experience as a
- 4 researcher is a result of earning four university degrees,
- 5 including a Doctor of Philosophy and teaching research
- 6 skills at a university graduate school. In any research
- 7 that has validity, integrity and credibility, at least two
- 8 components must be part of the process. They are a
- 9 collection of unblased data and an unbiased conclusion or
- 10 conclusions drawn from that data. That enables the reader
- ll or the listeners, in this case, of the research to take a
- 12 legitimate and appropriate course of action.
- 13 From my research on the issue of gambling and
- 14 poverty, I have drawn three pervasive conclusions that I
- 15 should like to share with you so that you can make the
- 16 correct decisions for Switzerland County. They are:
- 17 number one, it presents a false hope; secondly, it
- 18 promotes a financial hazard; and thirdly, it produces a
- 19 fiendish habit.
- 20 First of all, it presents a false hope. Their
- 21 biggest promotional for gambling is, 'We will bring
- 22 economic development to this community'. That is true.
- 23 However, it is true only for a select few. The notion of
- 24 economic development is a canard and grossly misleading.
- 25 The research shows, generally, over a period that the

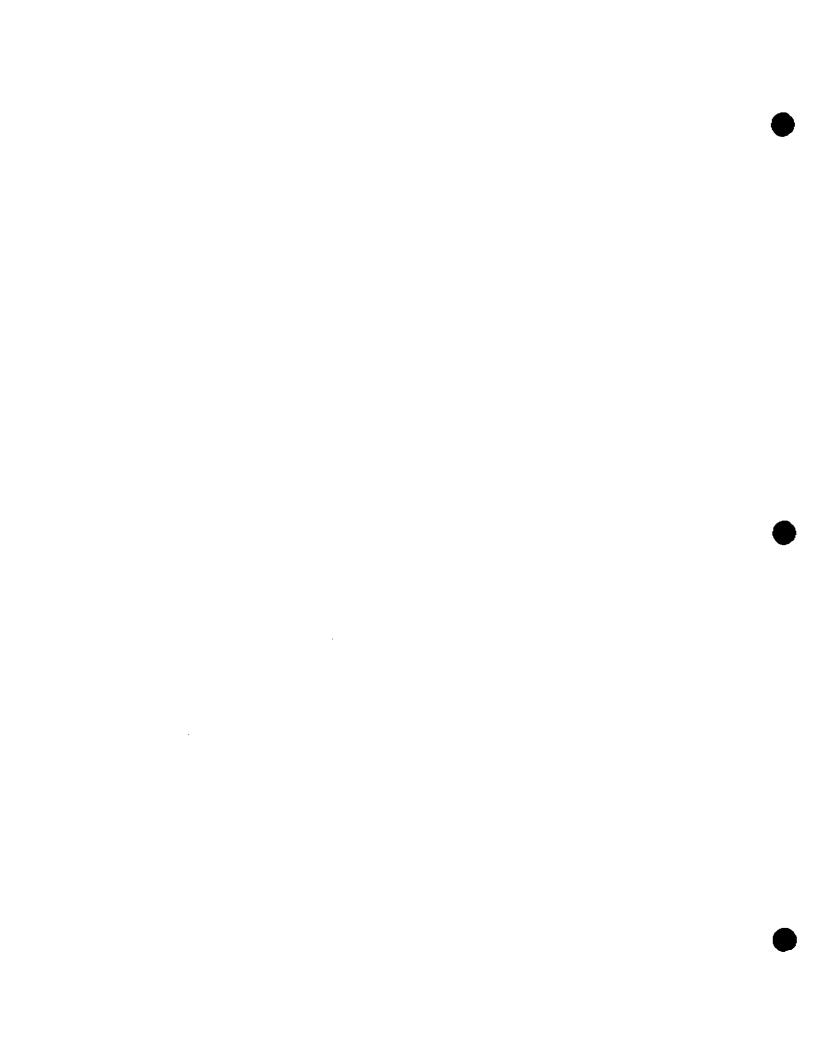


opposite is true.

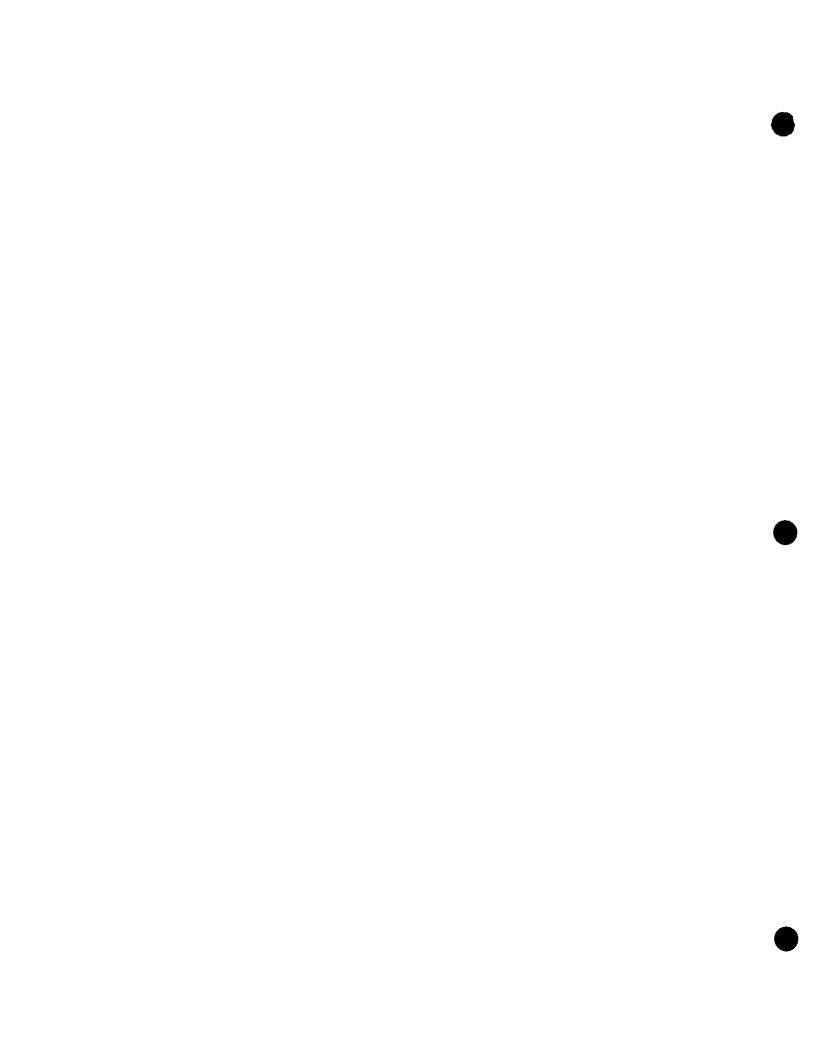
2 Switzerland County's financial condition is one 3 of the poorest in Indiana. It's ninetieth out of ninety-4 two. Our condition of poverty in Switzerland County is one 5 I called the Welfare Department and discovered that 6 there are alot of statistics there, but I can't quote them 7 all to you, but it would substantiate the fact that we are a very poor county. A large group of the population has 8 temporary jobs and those who work have poor paying jobs. 9 The gaming people prey on poor people and present them with 10 false hope. 11 Secondly, it promotes a financial hazard. I have 12 13 a research brief done by Focus on the Family here and there are two statements that I'd like to quote to you from the 14 I quote, "Two Duke University researchers 15 research. 16 concluded that the poorer the household, the greater the percentage of income devoted to gambling." 17 Secondly, 18 "Nearly two decades ago, the government's task force on 19 gambling came to much the same conclusion regarding 20 gambling in general. The task force found that those in 21 the lowest income bracket lost more than three times as 22 much money to gambling as a percentage of income as those 23 at the wealthiest end of the spectrum." I have a 24 synopsis here of twelve conditions that accrued in Nachez, 25 Mississippi, that is a county that has legalized gambling.



- 1 I'd like to quote the eleventh one to you, supporting the
- 2 fact that gambling is a financial hazard: "Social services
- 3 needs are up. The clientel on the boat is primarily low to
- 4 middle income and the greater part of the business comes
- 5 from a fifty mile radius. Nachez is the only town in Adams
- 6 County and the surrounding counties are rural and poor.
- 7 Neighboring Jefferson and Wilkison Counties are among the
- 8 poorest counties in the nation.
- 9 Thirdly, it produces a fiendish habit. Again,
- 10 I'd like to quote a research brief here and this is what it
- ll says, I quote: "They're legalizing gambling all over the
- 12 country" he said. Along with that is coming explosive -
- 13 explosing of compulsive gamblers that are being destroyed
- 14 all over the country. According to gamblers anonymous,
- 15 there are an estimated six to ten million compulsive
- 16 gamblers in the country, up from three million in 1986.
- 17 Now, what happens as a result of that? Listen to this:
- 18 Arnie Wensler wagered and lost more than three hundred
- 19 thousand - he's not relatively poor, I would say -
- 20 but he lost three hundred thousand by the age of thirty, a
- 21 compulsive gambler, his marriage deteriorated to nothing
- 22 while suicidal thoughts swirled in his mind, "I was looking
- 23 around to kill myself."
- Just a few concluding comments here. I received
- 25 a theme from one of the local high school students and, uh,



- 1 he's in the tenth grade, age sixteen. This is what he
- 2 wrote, his perception of gambling in Switzerland County:
- 3 "I don't think that the riverboat is a good idea, because
- 4 the poor people will be there and the welfare is too high
- 5 in this county and now the people will rob and get more
- 6 money to steal and lose."
- 7 Folks, I have a button here and, uh, you're
- 8 probably thinking, "Well, he's an enigma." But look here.
- 9 See the smoke up there? It says Jobs and Tourism. That's
- 10 where it's going to go, up in smoke. And here, Float the
- 11 Boat Where it is Most Needed - it is not needed in
- 12 Switzerland County.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you very much. Those of
- 14 you who are unable to get into the room - and
- I'm sorry, but this is the best we could do -
- 16 could you hold your conversations away from the
- 17 doorways, because it is interfering with our
- ability to hear the speakers, so I would
- appreciate it if you would do that for us. John
- 20 Scudder?
- JOHN SCUDDER: My name is John Scudder. I live
- 22 at 2033 Highway 56, Vevay. I pastor two small churches in
- 23 Switzerland County, but I'm also a retired Indiana State
- 24 Police officer and it's from those experiences that I wish
- 25 to address this group this morning.



- I have a paper that I would like to give to the
- 2 committee when I'm through. It's about a meeting, county
- 3 people going to Indianapolis to urge improvement of State
- 4 Road 129. It's the end of many long lists of people who
- 5 have gone to Indianapolis to try to get our roads improved.
- 6 I hope they have more luck than the ones before them. I
- 7 noticed, also, that there was two people on the program
- 8 this morning who were in that committee and I did not hear
- 9 their presentations, but I agree with them one hundred
- 10 percent. State Road 129 is sub-standard, it's dangerous
- 11 and I believe that there must be much work done on it
- 12 before we invite people to come this direction for any
- 13 reason.
- Monday morning I started from my home in East
- 15 Enterprise to Vevay. At the top of the hill I was stopped
- 16 by a sheriff's car and held in a line of traffic for
- 17 approximately twenty-five minutes. At the end of that time
- 18 there was a mobile home that came up the hill. That hill
- 19 is so narrow and so crooked that they have to block traffic
- 20 before you can come down.
- 21 As I was thinking about this presentation,
- 22 there's other things on that hill that came to my mind.
- 23 Just after you come through the horseshoe bend, there's a
- 24 rough spot where the road's sliding into the creek. It has
- 25 been doing that ever since I patrolled more than thirty

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years ago. At that one spot there was a fatal accident 1 2 years ago. The grand jury refused to indict. They said the road was so rough that they thought that was 3 4 contributing influence. A short distance down, if you happen to travel that way, you'll see the road is still 5 sliding into the - - over the hillside. I investigated an 6 7 accident there where three young men lost control, went off the road and hit a tree, killed them all. I used to know 8 exactly where that was, but the tree died. Even trees 9 don't live long on a hillside where the soil keeps 10 shifting. A little farther down the hill there was a 11 vehicle went over the bank, turned over, the passenger 12 couldn't get out, the car caught on fire, the person 13 burned. It's not a good way to spend an evening, waiting 14 for a car to cool off to get a partially burned body out of 15 16 it. If you came - - I don't know how you came to

17 18 this meeting. If you came 129, you understand what they're 19 talking about in this article. If you came from Madison. 20 which is the east/west access road to this area, you came across a place where there are barrels out already and in 21 this article it says that the road is slipping into the 22 23 river. As you come from the little community of Lamb, you will find about seven miles of road where if you walked off 24 to your right on the river side, you will find several 25

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- l places on the road where this is no berm. If you pull off
- 2 the edge of the white line, you have thin air.
- 3 I patrolled this road for nine years as a
- 4 trooper, from 1957 to December of 1966 when I was promoted
- 5 to detective. I still drove the road, but I did not
- 6 patrol. I drove well over four hundred thousand miles on
- 7 patrol in Ohio, Switzerland and Dearborn County. I believe
- 8 I know these roads as well as most anyone in this group.
- 9 I would suggest if you have good vision or you can imagine
- 10 if you would think of yourself travelling from the
- 11 community of Lamb toward Vevay some winter evening just
- 12 after the boat has let out their people, I understand that
- 13 alcohol is not discouraged on the boat, and as you would
- 14 meet a stream of traffic, a solid stream, imagine how you
- 15 would feel knowing on that narrow, twisting road if someone
- 16 could not stay on their side of the line, you have no place
- 17 to go.
- 18 If you came to this area from the east, down
- 19 State Road 156, you will find the road is sliding into the
- 20 river. In fact, it has slid farther than State Road 56.
- 21 About a year ago, it was closed because it had become so
- 22 dangerous to traffic. I don't know how long it was closed.
- 23 I did not go down to look. If you've seen one road, you've
- 24 seen 'em all.
- Whether the side of gambling that we are on,

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- Indiana is either an accomplice, an accessory or a partner
- 2 in the gambling exercise. I believe it's incumbent,
- 3 whichever one that we think Indiana is, to provide the
- 4 safest environment for the travelling public that it
- 5 possibly can. That means good planning, good construction,
- 6 good maintenance and good patrol. This county only has
- 7 slight control over the patrol. But you can't remember -
- 8 or can't imagine yourself travelling up State Road 56
- 9 facing that line of traffic, because you'll leave here, but
- 10 I'll face it and so will the people who live here. And
- 11 some - When I think of road defects, I can't help but
- 12 thinking of people, because people is what we're talking
- 13 about. I know there's lots of money involved, but people
- 14 are involved, also.
- 15 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you, Mr. Scudder.
- 16 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: Mr. Scudder, may I ask
- 17 you a question?
- MR. SCUDDER: Yes.
- 19 QUESTION BY JACK THAR: Based upon your personal
- experiences, let's assume a minimum of fifteen
- 21 hundred cars additional per day, Monday through
- Friday at noon, and five thousand additional
- vehicles Friday at noon through Sunday, what's
- your personal opinion of the three roads you've
- 25 mentioned being able to handle that type of

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traffic safely?

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MR. SCUDDER: It would be impossible for them to 2 3 handle them safely. I'm on the Sheriff's Merit Board and I know that they are asking for an increase in patrol personnel. If they have anything like that much traffic, all those people will be doing is answering calls. They will not be doing patrol work. I made the schedule at the 8 9 post for years. I have some expertise in how many people it takes to patrol roads and I don't 10 believe in any way, shape nor form, without major 11 overhaul these roads can handle that traffic with 12 any degree, let alone a reasonable degree of 13 14 safety.

15 JACK THAR: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Anybody else? Thank you.

17 Carolyn J. Miller? Welcome.

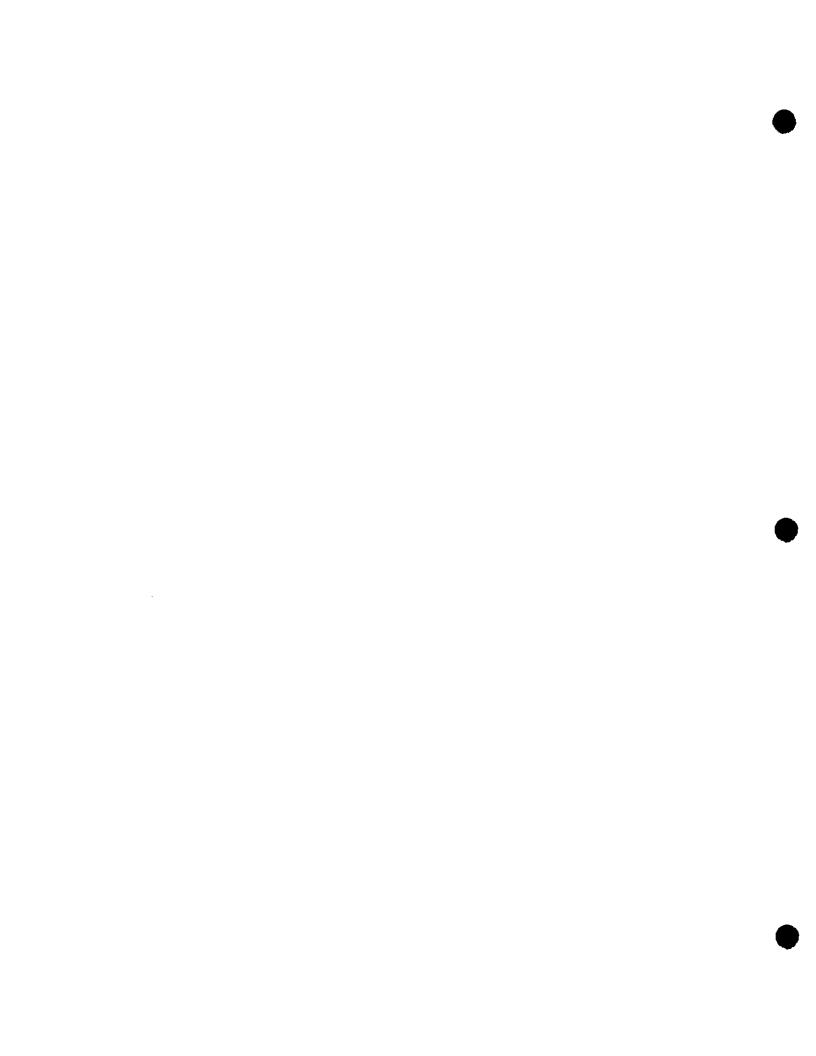
18 CAROLYN J. MILLER: Thank you. I welcome you all 19 to Switzerland County, especially to Vevay, Indiana, and the Ogle Haus. You've heard the statistics and I don't 20 21 have alot of statistics for you and I'm no professional in 22 the area of statistics. I have a few that I've read, but 23 I want to tell you that I'm a mother and I'm a grandmother

and I am a concerned citizen of Switzerland County.

25 The qambling referendum here passed by only one

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- hundred sixty-seven votes and I want to make that into your
- 2 minds, a hundred sixty-seven votes, and the issue has been
- 3 a very divisive thing in our county. Being a very small
- 4 place, everybody knows everyone else's business and
- 5 everyone else's relative and everything that goes with it,
- 6 and this issue has caused a division between co-workers and
- 7 friends and family members being very divided on the issue.
- 8 And I'm especially concerned over the families in our area.
- 9 We just heard it said by Mr. Goble that possibly this
- 10 gambling opportunity may help marriages in the area, but
- 11 it's the first thing I've ever considered that gambling
- 12 might help marriages. In fact, the statistics that I've
- 13 read might prove otherwise.
- 14 And we do have the opportunity for jobs.
- 15 Unfortunately for us, they're moving across the river.
- 16 There are factories opening up over there. There's a great
- 17 opportunity to go up to the dam, cross over and get jobs,
- 18 and this is becoming a bedroom community. But we'd like to
- 19 see some industry appropriate for our community to move in
- 20 here. We'd like for that revenue to come back to our
- 21 state.
- Now, the gamblers that were moving in our area
- 23 said, "Look at Tunica, Mississippi, because we can do for
- 24 you what we did for Tunica." So my husband and I travelled
- 25 down there. The day that we were there a young man had



been killed in a car accident that they had not determined 1 whether or not it was caused by the traffic, due to the 2 3 increased traffic due to gambling. But he had died. They 4 did have his funeral there. But afterwards, we questioned 5 many people as we could, a cross-section of the 6 community, librarians, teachers, police persons, and we 7 were really disturbed to find out that some of the teachers 8 in the area supplement their income by working at the 9 casinos in the summertime. To us, that seemed 10 inappropriate. And in fact, in our own school system, some of our teachers are either supporting and/or promoting 11 12 gambling, which also seems inappropriate to me. 13 what I'm trying to say is, I'm concerned over the influence 14 that our role models have on our families, our children, everyone from our own teachers, our 4-H leaders, attitudes 15 about Michael Jordan, and he's a hero among our teens, and 16 17 his well-publicized gambling affairs, that all bothers me. 18 Now, here's a statistic for you. Ken Hunter, who 19 is the Chief Postal Inspector of the United States Post 20 Office, while discussing embezzlement among postal 21 employees, had this to say: He said, "There's three main 22 C's", he calls it, "that are behind the embezzling these 23 days in the post office, the three top reasons, one is the 24 C of chance, one is the C of chemicals, and one is the C of 25 credit, and the C of chance is the one that's the fastest

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- growing." In other words, gambling is the fastest growing
- 2 reason behind embezzlement.
- Now, teens are gambling and why -
- 4 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Excuse me, Mrs. Miller.
- 5 Excuse me just a minute.
- 6 MRS. MILLER: Yes, uh-huh.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Mr. (indiscernible), would you
- ask those people to be quiet, please? I'm sorry
- 9 to interrupt you, but, uh -
- 10 MRS. MILLER: No problem.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 12 MRS. MILLER: Now, we wonder about teens gambling
- 13 and I wonder, also, and I'm sure not all of it's done in
- 14 casinos, 'cause how can they get in? And floating boats
- 15 looks like to me they'd be less apt to get in, but it is a
- 16 proven fact that in areas where there is gambling, it seems
- 17 that, maybe because it is the accepted thing, teens also
- 18 are doing the same thing. Now, I did find that forty-six
- 19 percent of teens mention some form of borrowing in
- 20 connection with gambling. 2.4 percent have borrowed from
- 21 their unsuspecting bosses. I'm sure they have the
- 22 intention to pay it back, but it doesn't usually happen
- 23 that way. Teens are twice more apt to become problem
- 24 gamblers than adults are and ninety-six percent of all of
- 25 our adult problem gamblers began gambling as a teen. In

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- 1 Illinois, six to eight percent of their teenagers are now
- 2 problem gamblers.
- 3 So, I guess what I'd like to say to remind you is
- 4 that this referendum passed by a hundred and sixty-seven
- 5 votes. We don't need these potential problems in our
- 6 community and we don't need the boat in Switzerland County.
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Okay. Andy Sims
- has asked to be moved up on our agenda. Is he
- 10 present at the present time?
- 11 ANDY SIMS: Are we going to have a break or
- 12 anything like that?
- 13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Beg your pardon?
- 14 ANDY SIMS: Is there not going to be a break or
- 15 anything?
- 16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: No, we're going straight
- 17 through.
- 18 ANDY SIMS: Okay. Thank you for the opportunity
- 19 to speak today. I've been opposed from the outset to
- 20 gambling in any form in any county. No referendum or
- 21 legislative act can make gambling the right thing to do.
- 22 It is morally and ethically wrong to risk the welfare of
- 23 gamblers, their families and our communities for the sake
- 24 of raising revenue. We can pretend that those negatives
- 25 won't be so bad or the money is too good to pass up, but

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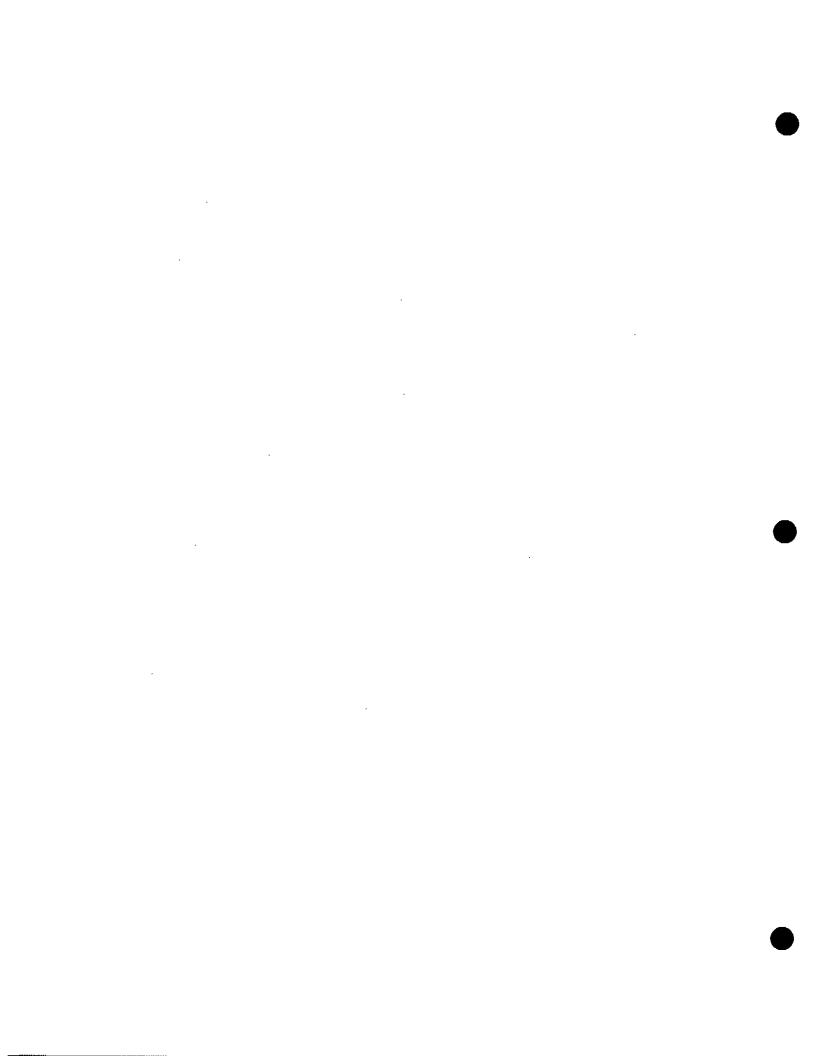
- the truth haunts us; it just isn't right.
- But that's not why we're here today. The
- 3 question today is, what counties should be granted a
- 4 gambling license. It's not about jobs or downtown
- 5 development or even revenue sharing. Every county has
- 6 those same hopes and dreams. But if that boat is misplaced
- 7 and does more harm than good, there will be no revenues.
- 8 In your discretion is the choice.
- 9 Ohio County is not prepared to absorb the influx
- 10 of multi-million dollar complex and it's demands upon our
- 11 resources, city services and self-government. I'm not
- 12 afraid of change, but offering an industry that's laced
- 13 with corruption and built upon deceit uncontested power
- 14 over our small town is frightening. Let me give you four
- 15 examples of how this imbalance of power poses a real threat
- 16 to Rising Sun.
- 17 First, it's going to drain our resources. Our
- 18 electric, water and sewage are all maxxed out now. The
- 19 schools need to expand to cover increased enrollment. That
- 20 proves, number one, that our town is not dead, like we've
- 21 been lead to believe in order to scare us into accepting
- 22 gambling, but it also shows that years of planning and
- 23 construction are necessary before we can handle significant
- 24 growth without jeopardizing our community. I used to live
- 25 in a town that developed too quickly, and so every other

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- 1 weekend in the summer we had no water at our home.
- 2 Expansion of the water supply took years. Will gambling
- 3 companies promise to delay operations until these issues
- 4 are resolved? No, that problem is our's and we aren't
- 5 going to solve it overnight.
- 6 Second, more than half of our entire county will
- 7 be owned by one corporation . . . half. The assessed
- 8 value of Ohio County is twenty-one million, four hundred
- 9 and fifty thousand dollars. The proposed gambling projects
- 10 will have an assessed value of over twenty-six million
- 11 dollars. That's not fitting in; it's taking over. Will
- 12 the concerns of a typical homeowner be given a fair
- 13 hearing?
- What leverage will we have if they don't keep
- 15 their promises? Last month, our city leaders tried to play
- 16 hardball with one of the gambling companies over some
- 17 unresolved lawsuits. Nice try, but we were out of our
- 18 league. In less than a month, we backed down.
- 19 Their only goal is to make money. It is a
- 20 business. But a city isn't supposed to be just buildings
- 21 or boats or bottom lines. It's people. And if one
- 22 corporation can cast it's shadow over an entire county, the
- 23 people will be the ones that are left in the dark.
- 24 Third, the voice of our small town will be hard
- 25 to hear. The referendum over gambling was supposed to be

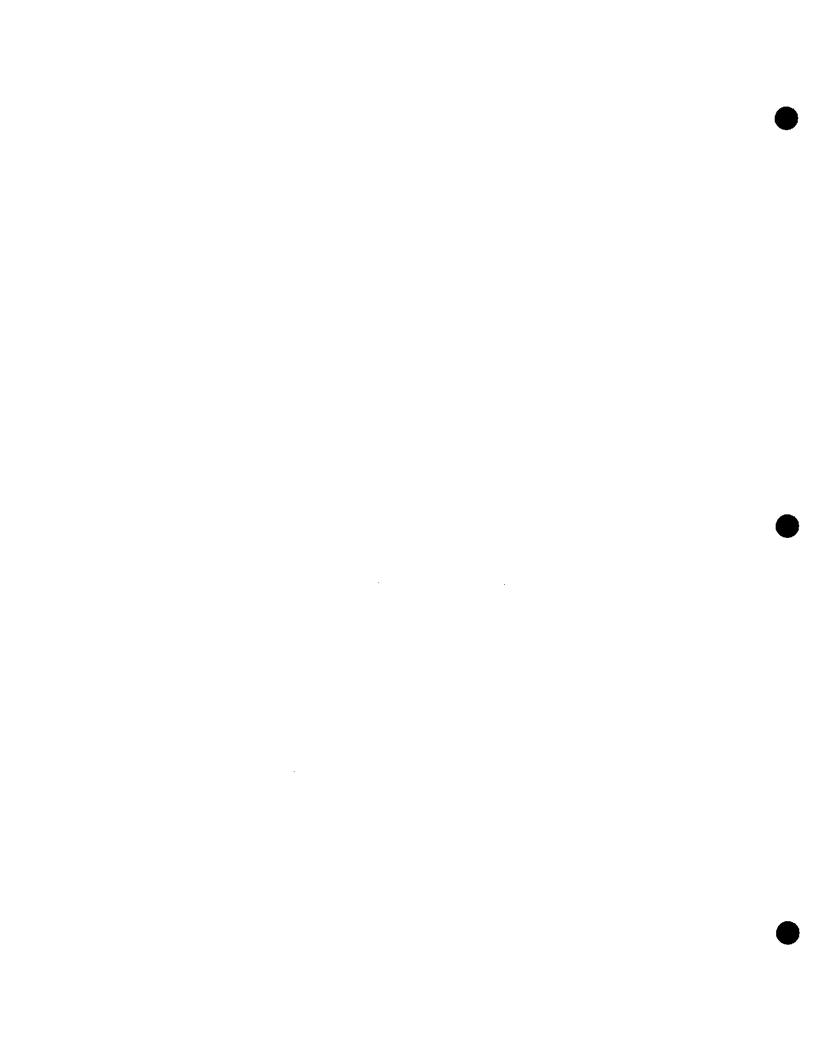
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- to let the counties decide, yet the gambling companies
- 2 spent over sixty thousand dollars on that election,
- 3 compared to about two thousand raised by the opposition
- 4 from within the county. They've hired P.R. firms to coach
- 5 their speakers for this hearing and others. There's no
- 6 telling how much they would be willing to spend to lobby
- 7 for their issues in Indianapolis. Do you really think the
- 8 voice of Ohio County is being heard?
- 9 Tomorrow you're going to see one gambling
- 10 company's billboard that stood in flagrant violation of our
- 11 zoning code for two years. Today they got a temporary
- 12 permit, not to please us, but to impress you for tomorrow.
- 13 Funds for road work keep getting diverted for
- 14 more important locations we're told. We don't seem to be
- 15 big enough to get anyone's attention, but suddenly you are
- 16 interested in us? We're small, but we're not foolish.
- 17 We're being used.
- 18 Finally, our town's population on any given day
- 19 will double or even triple. You can only imagine how
- 20 overcrowded our town of just twenty-five hundred people
- 21 will be. It's a numbers game. The negative impact is
- 22 multiplied because we are so small to begin with. What
- 23 happens when crime, compulsive gambling, drunk driving,
- 24 emergency and welfare assistance, family counselling,
- 25 traffic and safety issues are tripled or even worse in our



- small county? And inconvenience to larger towns is a
- 2 crisis for us. Common sense tells you the smallest county
- 3 in Indiana can't handle this influx. Ohio County is the
- 4 wrong choice.
- 5 Let me end by saying, I believed in Rising Sun
- 6 First before there were T-shirts. They've got the wrong
- 7 name. For them, gambling is first, but if Rising Sun is
- 8 forced to compete against a multi-million dollar
- 9 corporation it will end up getting second best. Please
- don't let them sell our town's quaint riverfront character.
- 11 We're a great little town; we're not a gambling town.
- 12 Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. I probably should
- have announced to the group that we have switched
- from Switzerland County, which, of course, up
- here we all have agendas and understand what's
- 17 happening, but for the audience, we have switched
- 18 from Switzerland County to Ohio County, and Mr.
- 19 Sims had to be put forward because he had an
- 20 emergency type situation.
- 21 MR. SIMS: I appreciate your flexibility.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.
- QUESTION BY DAVID ROSS: Mr. Sims, what is your
- 24 position at Rising Sun?
- 25 MR. SIMS: I'm the minister of the Rising Sun

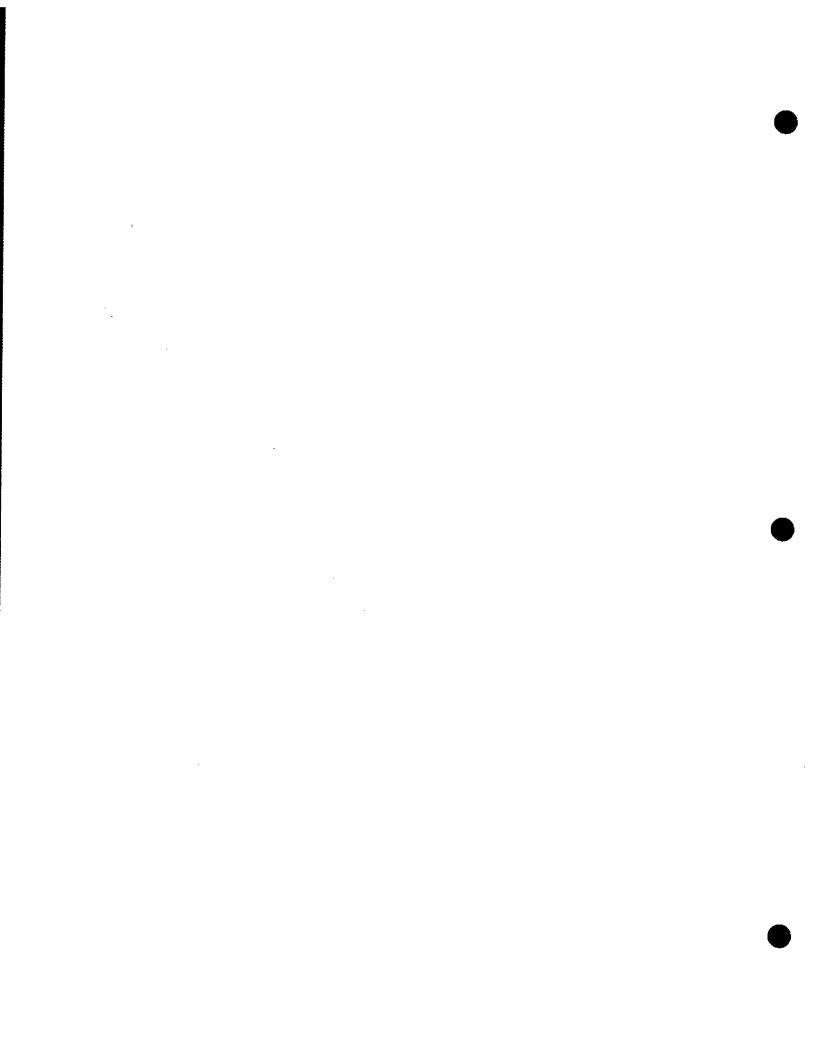
Church of Christ there. 1 2 MR. ROSS: Thank you. 3 MR. SIMS: Other questions? Thank you. CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. I guess I should 5 thank the people who made the presentations for б Switzerland County. It was most informative and we certainly appreciate your coming down, because without that kind of input, we really don't get 8 the flavor of the situation and we do thank you. 9 And so we'll move on now to Ohio County, which I 10 should have announced before, and the rest of the 11 people who will be on our agenda this morning are 12 concerned with Ohio County. Debbie Foutty? I'm 13 sorry to have pushed you down from the first 14 15 position, but, uh - -16 DEBBIE FOUTTY: That's fine. That's fine. 17 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Reverend Sims said he had 18 something. 19 DEBBIE FOUTTY: We spoke out there and that was 20 absolutely fine. 21 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. 22 DEBBIE FOUTTY: Good morning. 23 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Welcome. 24 DEBBIE FOUTTY: My name is Debbie Foutty. I have to admit, I'm a little nervous with this today. I'm not a 25



public speaker. But I am here to talk to you today about 1 2 a topic that's very important to me and very important to 3 our community. I'd like to focus on Rising Sun First and 4 how a riverboat project will help us to redevelop Main 5 Street businesses. I'm a mother of four young children, a 6 member of the local school board, and Assistant Manager of 7 the Madison Bank and Trust Company in downtown Rising Sun. I've been with the bank for fourteen years. 8 In that 9 regard, I'm one of the luckiest people in town, since I 10 don't have to leave to work at my job. Most people who 11 live in Ohio County have to go elsewhere to work. We're hoping a riverboat and it's accompanying destination resort 12 will help us to change that. In my spare time, I'm the 13 14 president of the group of people known as Rising Sun First. You may have noticed one or two of us in the audience 15 16 You may have seen us at past Indiana Gaming **17** Commission meetings. We've done alot of listening so far, 18 but today's our chance to tell you about our city and what 19 we know to be a wonderful economic development opportunity. 20 Rising Sun First is an organization that consists 21 of people from our city and county and counties around us. 22 We have members from both major political parties and 23 probably a few minor parties, from different economic 24 levels and all kinds of occupations. Originally we were 25 just a group of people who kept each other informed about

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- the riverboat issue, but the more we learned about the
- 2 possibilities for Rising Sun, the more we became enthused.
- 3 It's an amazing thing when people in a community begin to
- 4 work together. Many of us worked to help pass the
- 5 riverboat referendum in Ohio County and I'm proud to say
- 6 our county had the highest percentage turnout in the state
- 7 and the best percentage of victory on the Ohio River.
- 8 After the referendum we recognized that we still had much
- 9 to learn about the project and that there was a strong need
- 10 for ongoing public education, both in the area and
- 11 throughout the state. Most people in Indiana don't know
- 12 about Rising Sun. In fact, I would bet that many on the
- 13 Commission and staff didn't know about Rising Sun at first.
- 14 So we decided to formalize our organization as a means of
- 15 raising our profile and public awareness.
- The group's name came naturally, in that Rising
- 17 Sun was the first to formally request a referendum after
- 18 the General Assembly passed the riverboat law and given the
- 19 fact that we firmly believe our project can and will be the
- 20 first to be up and running. The effort has mobilized the
- 21 whole community. Rising Sun First has grown to include
- 22 more than four hundred people from all over Southeast
- 23 Indiana.
- Our first big project as an organization was to
- 25 start a letter writing campaign you may have seen a few



of them.

2 learn more about riverboat's affects 3 communities the group has taken the initiative to visit other existing sites. Those visits have helped us to find 4 5 both what we want and what we don't want from the 6 We want to make sure this development development. 7 reflects our goals for the community. For example, the 8 project needs to be tied into the community in a way that ties it in with the city's tradition and potential, as 9 10 opposed to it being an isolated site. We want to make sure the project contributes value to Rising Sun that would last 11 12 beyond the life of the riverboat, building what we believe will be a viable new industry for Southeastern Indiana, 13 14 tourism.

We're not trying to turn Rising Sun into Las

Vegas or Atlantic City. In truth, I don't know anyone here

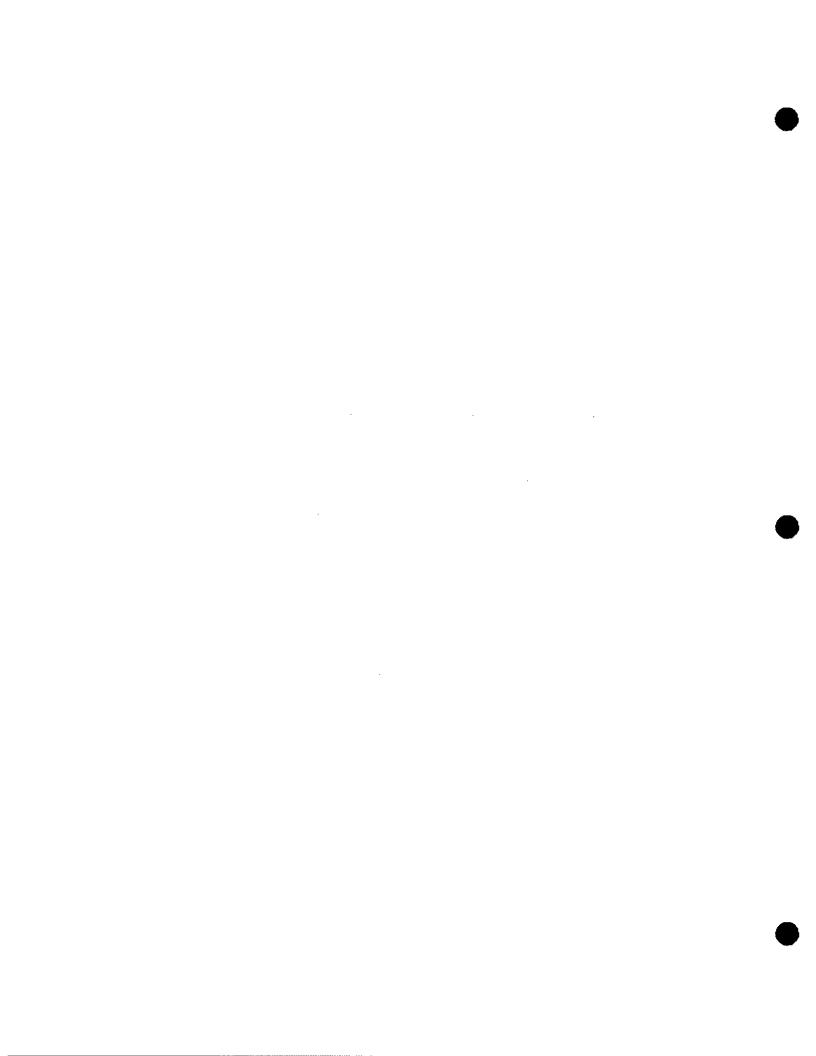
who would want that. If solid guidelines and controls are

put in place from the beginning, we believe that riverboats

can and will serve as a development tool to help this city.

succeed.

21 this city and the new riverboat and destination resort are to succeed, the project must 22 23 contribute to the redevelopment οf our downtown, particularly Main Street. As I mentioned earlier, I work 24 at the bank on Main Street in Rising Sun. 25



- husband has a photography business that's located on Main
- 2 Street. We have a particular interest in seeing the
- 3 downtown revitalized.
- 4 Rising Sun used to be a center of commerce and
- 5 industry, largely because of the Ohio River. As river
- 6 traffic declined the new roads and railroads passed us
- 7 by those businesses left. With them went jobs and the
- 8 economic vitality of the town. We've watched far too many
- 9 buildings deteriorate into disuse over the years. While
- 10 fewer people came downtown, businesses closed and down
- 11 spiral continues unabated.
- 12 Main Street is the heart of the city. For that
- 13 reason, it is vital that the riverboat development be
- 14 situated so as to keep our downtown healthy. Rising Sun
- 15 has structured all requirement for the gaming companies in
- 16 a way that will ensure that the benefits of this
- 17 development extend beyond the gaming facility itself. We
- 18 envision an amphitheater entertainment center at the foot
- 19 of Main Street with frequent trolley service connecting the
- 20 gaming resort and downtown area. Whichever gaming company
- 21 is licensed in Rising Sun will contribute a substantial
- 22 amount of funding that will be used to refurbish Main
- 23 Street businesses. Again, let me emphasize that we have no
- 24 intention of turning our city into a glitzy, neon
- 25 splattered gambling mecca.

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1	All of our research indicates that a destination
2	resort three blocks from downtown will help us build a
3	solid base of tourism. With the many commercial
4	opportunities that will accompany this influx of people we
5	will revitalize Rising Sun and Ohio County. We have a nice
6	city, but we need to keep the city alive. We hope you will
7	share our vision. When you make the decision on licensing
8	riverboats for Southeast Indiana, please remember Rising
۵	Sup First Thank you

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Thank you. Any questions? CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Thank you very much. I guess I should reiterate for those who may have come in later and who are going to be speakers that we have this system. You have five minutes to speak and we are trying to hold to that. When you get down to where you only have one minute left, we have a yellow card that comes up - - and the ladies down at this end of the table are the ones with the flash cards. When you're clear out of time, you'll get a red, and at that point in time I'd certainly appreciate you finishing up and concluding it, because it will keep us so that we can hear all of the people that want to address. Okay. Mr. Dorrell, is that correct?

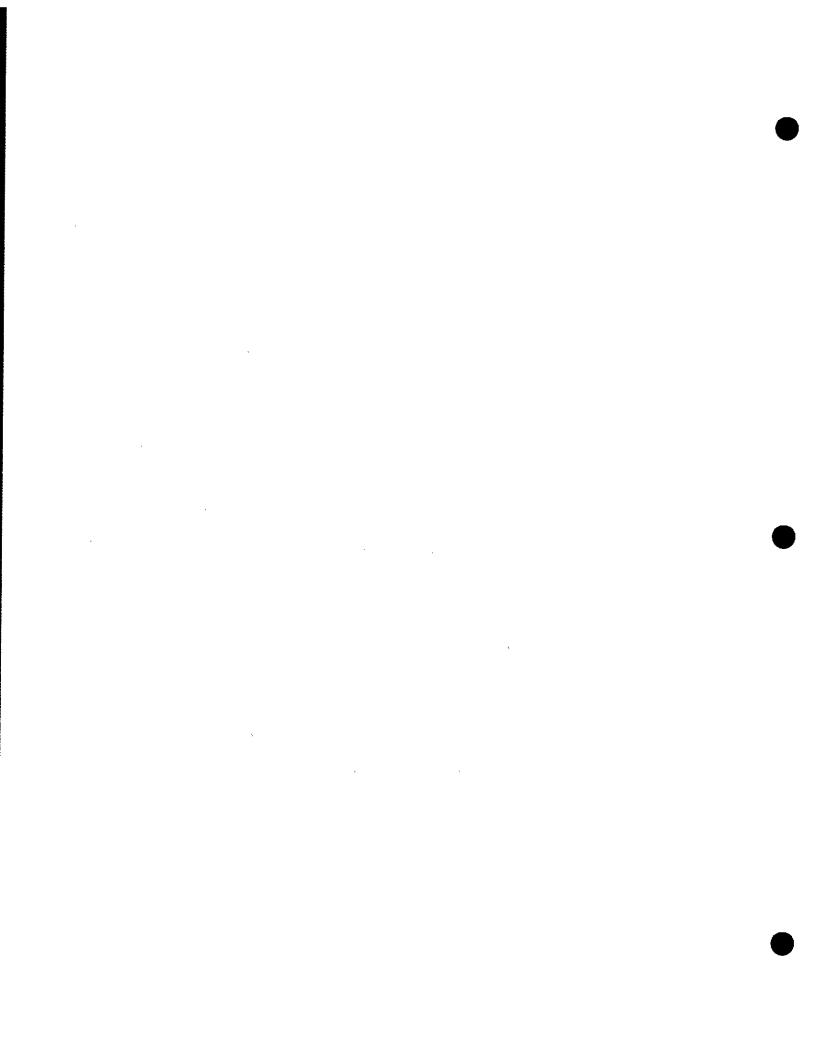
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JIM DORRELL: My name is Jim Dorrell. I'm from 25

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Rising Sun, Indiana. Mr. Chairman, Members of the 1 Committee and staff, thank you for this opportunity to 2 3 speak on a project that is very important to me and to the 4 voters of Ohio County. I have lived in Ohio County for 5 eighty-five years. I have taught school for thirty-five 6 years, retiring in 1974. I have been a member of the 7 Rotary Club for forty years. I have been a member of the Masonic Lodge for over fifty years. I have been very 8 active in community affairs, President of the Ohio County 9 Historical Society for the last twenty years, County 10 Historian, published four books on Ohio County and donated 11 12 the proceeds to the Ohio County Historical Society. With this background, I feel that I am familiar with Ohio 13 County, it's past, it's present, it's ups, it's downs and 14 15 it's needs.

16 Ohio County is strictly a bedroom community. Any 17 prosperity we enjoy is not because of local jobs, but due 18 to those people working in other areas. Many of those 19 people have expressed a desire to have the opportunity to 20 work in their own community and opportunities for their 21 children when they grow up. Years ago local industry saw 22 this problem, local industry and agriculture. have no industry. Today we have less than ten full-time 23 24 farmers in Ohio County. We need jobs of all sorts. need professional jobs. We need jobs for those people that 25



- are skilled workers. We need jobs for those people with
- 2 minimal skills.

- Point two, Rising Sun High School has always had
- 4 a high percentage of graduates attending college. Today we
- 5 have five people in Rising Sun who have graduated from the
- 6 Rising Sun High School and college and returned to Rising
- 7 Sun for a livelihood. Where are the rest of those people?
- 8 This year seventy-four students will graduate from the
- 9 Rising Sun High School. Sixty percent will go to college
- 10 or schools of higher learning. That leaves forty percent
- 11 for employment in Rising Sun or thirty students. We have
- 12 the IGA Grocery, we have the Dairy Queen and we have Jack's
- 13 Restaurant.
- Point three, the community needs revenue for it's
- 15 schools, for it's fire department, for it's emergency unit,
- 16 for it's roads, for it's streets, for it's sidewalks. The
- 17 high school building is thirty-six years old and we will be
- 18 needing a new high school building in a short time.
- I am looking beyond this project for additional
- 20 aid to Ohio County. I am looking for tourism, housing
- 21 development, industry, new businesses. In fact, I am
- 22 looking for every empty building on Main Street to be
- 23 occupied by a successful and growing business. This
- 24 revitalization project for Rising Sun, Ohio County, will
- 25 not only benefit our area, but will benefit the surrounding

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- communities.
- 2 Let me make this clear, perfectly clear, I have
- 3 nothing to gain. Others will have the opportunities for
- 4 themselves and their families and their children, even
- 5 maybe some of our lost talent will return to Rising Sun.
- 6 For over a hundred and fifty years the river brought us
- 7 prosperity, jobs, progress. Maybe that river will do that
- 8 again.
- 9 In closing, I'm eighty-five years of age.
- 10 Chances are I won't be around to see this project ended.
- 11 Unless I happen to get hit with a golfball I expect to be
- 12 around here, but I would like to be around here to see this
- 13 project adopted. I want to see our community and area a
- 14 beehive of activity, not a Rip Van Winkle retreat. Thank
- 15 you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Uh, Fred Ross?
- 17 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOCHNOWSKI: You can go ahead.
- 18 FRED ROSS: Okay. Thank you for allowing me this
- 19 opportunity to present my thoughts to you this morning. My
- 20 name is Fred Ross. I've lived in Rising Sun, Ohio County,
- 21 for twenty-three years. I'm here today as a private
- 22 citizen and recent past mayor of the City of Rising Sun.
- I understand, as former mayor, how important it
- 24 is for the city to provide for the health and safety of
- 25 it's citizens and how vital it is to constantly try to



- create economic and employment opportunities in the
- 2 community. I would like to talk to you about the economic
- 3 and employment opportunities that would be created by
- 4 placing a riverboat gaming development in Rising Sun. In
- 5 particular, I would like to begin by telling you a little
- 6 bit about how we've prepared for this project.
- 7 As the legislature made riverboats a reality in
- 8 Indiana, citizens in Rising Sun recognized what a
- 9 tremendous opportunity such a development would create for
- 10 the Ohio County area and began work to make it a reality in
- 11 our own community. Rising Sun put together a task force to
- 12 analyze the issues involved and to ensure an orderly and
- 13 informative public process would help the city and county
- 14 prepare. Rising Sun was the first site to seek a
- 15 referendum. It passed the highest winning percentage of
- 16 any Ohio River county. Our community and county came
- 17 together in many ways. Rising Sun First you may have
- 18 noticed them upon occasion became active in maintaining
- 19 public support. A redevelopment committee was formed to
- 20 make necessary plans for the project. Zoning, planning,
- 21 revenue distribution, license and regulation all have been
- 22 thoroughly discussed in open city-county forums. In the
- 23 course of our preparations, we put together a vision plan
- 24 for the city. The plan, assembled after input from
- 25 citizens throughout the county, has been invaluable in

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- making sure that we are ready for this development. Rising
- 2 Sun has been doing and will continue to do our homework.
- 3 This economic development project is vital for Southeast
- 4 Indiana, the scope of the development being a true
- 5 destination resort complex, the way it integrates with
- 6 downtown creating opportunities for new businesses and it's
- 7 potential for employment opportunities will create a
- 8 project that will outlast the advent of competition from
- 9 surrounding states. This project will help us bring in an
- 10 industry that can benefit all of southeast Indiana -
- 11 tourism.
- 12 Since the beginning of the riverboat process we
- 13 have faced many obstacles, both perceived and real. In
- 14 each case we have met them head on. The latest issue is
- 15 State Road 56. Can it handle the traffic volume safely?
- 16 Three traffic engineering firms and the Indiana Department
- of Transportation say it can, but our community leaders
- 18 decided to look into an upgrade and found that the state
- 19 does not have any plans, so we began to explore methods of
- 20 doing it ourselves. In a meeting with the Indiana
- 21 Department of Transportation officials it was found the
- 22 process could be cut from five years to one if Rising Sun
- 23 takes the lead. Indiana Department of Transportation's
- 24 estimate estimate that for approximately three hundred
- 25 thousand dollars for mile, the road can be brought up to R-

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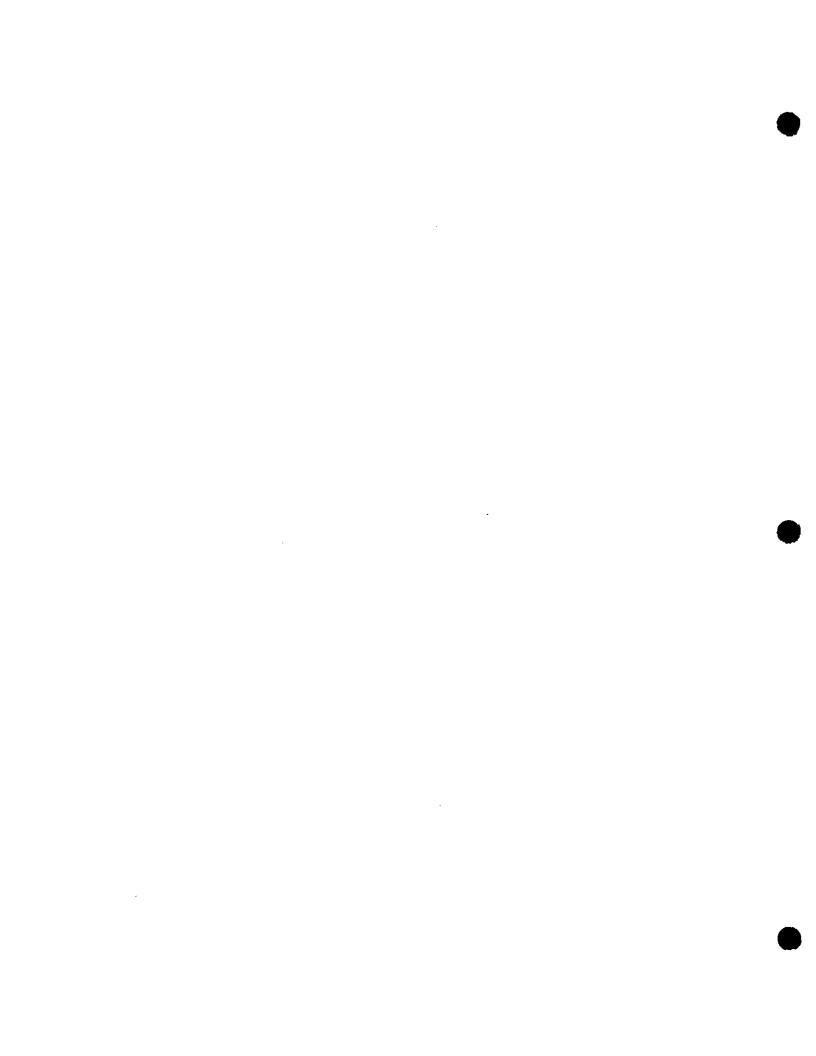
- 3 standards. Our community leaders are committed; whatever
- 2 it takes to raise this money and get this job done, we will
- 3 do it. It will be the top priority for us.
- As a former mayor of Rising Sun, I can fully
- 5 understand our four county area's needs. We need jobs and
- 6 economic opportunity. We all need to upgrade our
- 7 infrastructure. We need to prepare for the future.
- 8 Luckily, we are blessed with a tremendous group of people
- 9 who have pulled together as a team to meet those needs. We
- 10 are getting ready for the future and we hope that the
- 11 future will include downtown redevelopment, tourism,
- 12 heightened commercial and recreational opportunities, and
- 13 yes, ladies and gentlemen, a riverboat development.
- 14 Based on our initial studies that have been done
- 15 and based on other studies, analysis and current and future
- 16 needs and capabilities, this economic development project
- 17 file our needs and furthers the goals of the State of
- 18 Indiana, the southeast portion of the state and the
- 19 citizens of Rising Sun and Ohio County. And I thank you
- 20 again for your time and your attention. Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: Excuse me. Do you
- 23 have - What is the length of this road
- 24 between Aurora and Rising Sun?
- 25 FRED ROSS: About approximately nine miles.

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- QUESTION BY ROBERT SUNDWICK: So 56 has a nine
- 2 mile stretch on this map?
- FRED ROSS: Well, yes, but now from the county
- 4 line, from the Ohio County line to Rising Sun is
- 5 seven miles approximately.
- 6 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Any other questions? Thank
- 7 you. Bob White? Good morning.
- 8 ROBERT WHITE: Good morning. First I'd like to
- 9 thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today. My
- 10 name is Robert White. Though this is a hearing for
- 11 riverboat gaming, I view this as a hearing about the
- 12 survival of the City of Rising Sun and Ohio County, a topic
- 13 I care very much about. I come before you today, like many
- 14 people in a small town, wearing multiple hats.
- 15 As a longtime resident, I have lived in Ohio
- 16 County since 1967, and Southeastern Indiana all my life.
- 17 I care about maintaining the unique character and
- 18 atmosphere of this community.
- As a parent, I care about ensuring that this city
- 20 stays a decent place to live and raise a family and I care
- 21 about making sure our educational system turns out quality
- 22 graduates with quality economic opportunities right here in
- 23 Southeastern Indiana.
- As a teacher for the past twenty-seven years and
- 25 after twenty-two years of coaching, I care about the chance

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- to broaden our educational opportunities, so that our
- 2 students can get more than just the basics. That takes the
- 3 sort of funding that we simply don't have. When the
- 4 building needs repairs, when equipment breaks down, it's
- 5 all we can do to catch up. We can't encourage excellence
- 6 that way. Also, I care about seeing that our kids have
- 7 good jobs after graduation. These days our students
- 8 graduate from high school and never return to Ohio County.
- 9 As a member of the planning commission and the
- 10 zoning board of appeals, I care about how this city and
- 11 county prepare for the future. Rising Sun has always
- 12 talked about getting new industries and businesses and
- 13 we've tried, but this project is the most viable
- 14 opportunity and offers more promise than anything we've
- 15 considered. I want to make sure that our city has a
- 16 future. I want to make sure that we are taking the steps
- 17 we need to make that future a reality.
- From a business standpoint, we've been slowly
- 19 disappearing. From the infrastructure standpoint, the
- 20 city's needs are growing while our means of addressing
- 21 those needs are shrinking.
- 22 So early on we began evaluating this project in
- 23 light of where we, as a city, are right now, where we want
- 24 to be and whether this was a viable means of maintaining
- 25 and improving our situation. We approached this as a



- business decision cautiously, having seen the potential for
- 2 both good and bad affects on other communities.
- From the beginning, we formed a redevelopment
- 4 commission, whose sole purpose was to guide future growth
- 5 and in the light of the scale of this project, control
- 6 interactions with the gaming company. In fact, the
- 7 contract was worked out with the remaining companies
- 8 specifically includes the redevelopment committee as an
- 9 active participant, in addition to the city and the port
- 10 authority. We put together a vision plan to guide our
- 11 efforts. With professional assistance, we held multiple
- 12 meetings at our high school gaining input from a wide
- 13 variety of Rising Sun, Ohio County residents. Thirty to
- 14 fifty people at any given time prioritized a list of
- 15 community concerns and developed solid steps to meet those
- 16 needs. We recognize, for example, that our current part-
- 17 time government would be inadequate to deal with a huge
- 18 economic development project and made plans to add full-
- 19 time positions, including a redevelopment commissioner,
- 20 building inspector, tourism director and clerk-treasurer.
- 21 We evaluated our utility situation and our needs, both with
- 22 and without this project. We examined our community goals
- 23 for the project and determined that our development must
- 24 mesh with and compliment our efforts to develop tourism and
- 25 downtown redevelopment.

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Our evaluation of this project's suitability

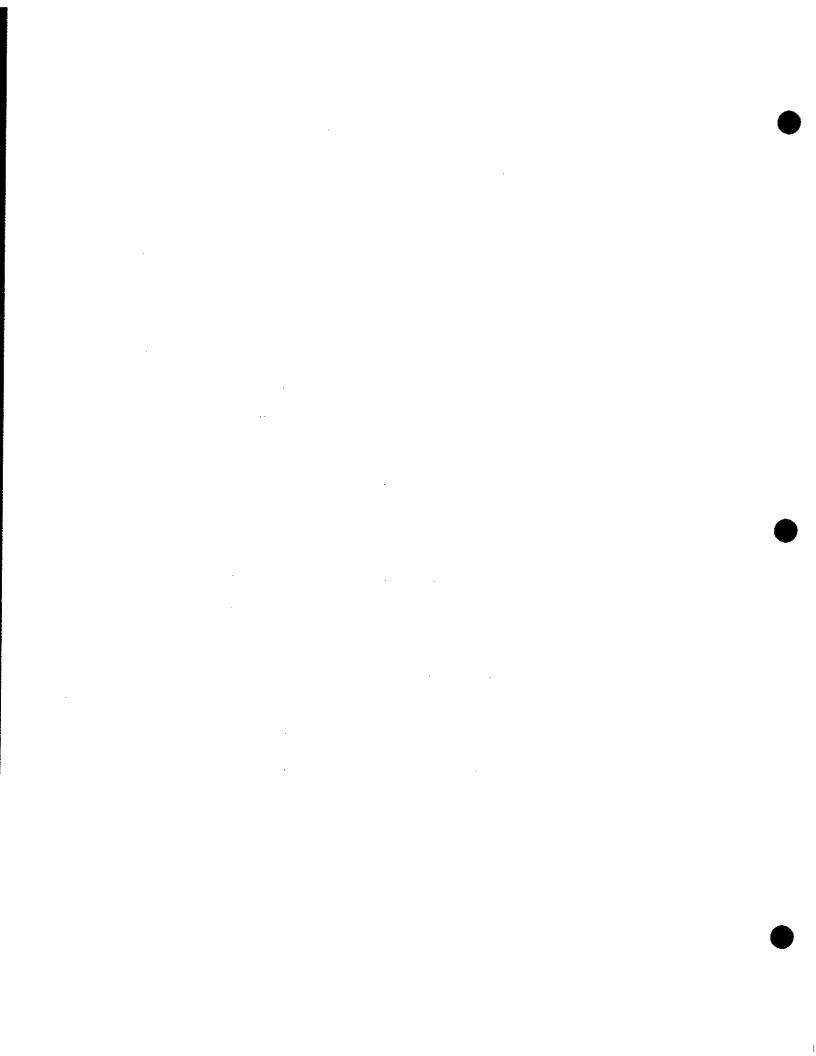
- 2 included a study of the potential site situated only three
- 3 blocks from downtown Rising Sun. The proposed site, with
- 4 a potential of up to four hundred acres, is high out of the
- 5 floor plain. In fact, it is the highest flat land between
- 6 Cincinnati and Evansville. Utilities are adjacent to the
- 7 site. The wetland determination map developed by the Soil
- 8 Conservation Service does not indicate the presence of any
- 9 wetland. The Indiana Natural Heritage Data Base shows no
- 10 endangered, threatened or rare species on the site.
- 11 From a river safety point of view, the concerns
- 12 include shifts in the crest of the Ohio during period of
- 13 flooding, strong currents, floating debris and ice. The
- 14 first three are associated with spring rains and the latter
- 15 with winter. These concerns are alleviated by mooring the
- 16 vessel in a backwater harbor off the river of the depth
- 17 adequate to handle the rise and fall of the Ohio.
- 18 Admittedly, I'm no expert in these matters, but
- 19 from what I know and have learned, if there's a better site
- 20 location on the Ohio River, I haven't seen it. As a result
- 21 of our steady approach to evaluating and preparing for this
- 22 project, our zoning and park board commissions have been
- 23 reenergized. City and county representatives have been
- 24 meeting and cooperating on a regular basis for the past six
- 25 months. We are developing a comprehensive plan that

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reflects what we have learned about our city, it's needs 1 2 and capabilities. We know that our work is still cut out 3 for us. As we try to prepare ourselves for this 4 development and it's affect on our city, so we 5 continuing to hold meetings - - we are continuing to hold 6 meetings on a monthly basis for all concerned citizens in 7 the community and the county. On the first Sunday of the 8 month at the Historical Building any and all people are 9 welcomed to continue the community dialogue. We know that this development opportunity with it's potential for 10 redevelopment in Rising Sun and it's potential for opening 11 12 up a whole new area of business in this corner of the state 13 fits with where we want to be in the future. What we've learned is that we can pull together as a community, and we 14 15 have and we will continue to take steps to get ready. 16 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Mr. White, are you - -17 ROBERT WHITE: We will be prepared. I feel 18 confident that Ohio County and the City of Rising Sun can 19 control this project. As a teacher, I can say we've done 20 our homework. Please make Rising Sun first. Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, thank you. I have a 22 quick question. As I indicated to the people 23 from Switzerland County, it's important that you 24 do have county wide zoning if you get into

situation, because when the Genie gets out of the

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1	bottle, you can't put it back.
2	MR. WHITE: We have both a county board and a
3	city board.
4	QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: And they have
5	jurisdiction county wide?
6	MR. WHITE: Both of them have.
7	QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: So you're
8	satisfied that you'll be able to control the
9	development?
10	MR. WHITE: Very much so.
11	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.
12	MR. WHITE: I think the city will have all that -
13	- and the county in their plans next month for
14	you to see.
15	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay, well I'm more
16	worried about the people from our standpoint
17	that's, uh Okay. Anybody else have
18	anything? Thank you very much. Dick Hastings?
19	DICK HASTINGS: Good morning, Mr. Chairman
20	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Good morning.
21	DICK HASTINGS: and members of the Indiana
22	Gaming Commission. Thank you for giving me this
23	opportunity to speak with you today. As you know, Mr.
24	Degnan was scheduled to speak, but due to complications he

25 was unable to be here. My name is Dick Hastings. I'm from

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- Rising Sun, Indiana. I am a member of the Ohio County Port
- 2 Authority and a lifelong resident of Ohio County. I know
- 3 the river very well. As a young boy, I had my share of
- 4 skinny dipping in the river and for a number of years,
- 5 total it twenty, I commercial fished the Ohio River up and
- 6 down the banks of Ohio County. Our stretch of river has
- 7 always been very special, not just to me, but countless
- 8 people who live in Rising Sun and Ohio County today.
- When this area first settled back in the 1800's,
- 10 the river created a growth surge only surpassed by
- 11 Cincinnati in the midwest. Several riverboats were built
- 12 in Rising Sun. Tons of grain and produce were shipped out
- of Rising Sun for the western and southern ports each year.
- 14 That growth abruptly stopped due to various
- 15 circumstances, but now Southeastern Indiana has a chance to
- 16 totally revitalize itself again due to our river, our site
- 17 and Rising Sun's geographic location. Our river is wide,
- 18 it's deep. It creates opportunity for a true cruise
- 19 experience. The river is between eighteen hundred and two
- 20 thousand feet wide through the area and pretty much a
- 21 straight north and south shot. With the range of a hundred
- 22 and fifty feet to five hundred feet, we do not have any
- 23 boundary problems with Kentucky that you have seen
- 24 elsewhere along the Ohio River. Our site is the highest
- 25 location between Cincinnati and Evansville.

- Geographically, Rising Sun is located ideally to capture a 1 2 maximum benefit of Southeast Indiana, as well as for the 3 State of Indiana. Unlike other locations, Rising Sun is 4 ideally situated to create a true destination resort 5 complex. Dearborn, Ripley, and Switzerland County, as well as other southeastern counties will benefit because of 6 Rising Sun's location, not in spite of it. Back to the 7 river, all initial studies would indicate that the 8 9 location, Rising Sun, Indiana, will be the 10 permittable site anywhere along the Ohio River and perhaps any gaming locale in the state. Primary investigations 11 ecological 12 indicate that there are no problems, 13 environmental problems, wetland problems, archaeology problems, cruise problems - - no problems. 14 15 In conclusion, select Rising Sun first because of it's site advantage, because of it's revenue sharing 16 advantage, offering Switzerland, Dearborn, Ripley and Ohio 17 18 Counties, and the following cities and towns: Vevay, 19 Patriot, Lawrenceburg, Holton, Osgood, Napoleon, Milan, 20 Sunman, Aurora, Dillsboro, West Harrison, St. Leon, Moores 21 Hill, Greendale and, yes, even Lawrenceburg, if for some 22 reason they can't get a boat. And because of Rising Sun's
- 25 all areas, clearly demonstrates Rising Sun is ready, able,

vision of a true destination resort complex, our community

is - - our community, with it's comprehensive planning in

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- capable of handling a project of this magnitude benefitting
- 2 all citizens and the State of Indiana.
- 3 I thank'you and hope you all have a mighty fine
- 4 day.
- 5 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you and same to you.
- 6 Anyone have anything to ask Mr. Hastings? Mr
- 7 Wiesmann?
- 8 HOWARD WIESMANN: Mr. Chairman and Members of the
- 9 Gaming Commission, my name is Howard Wiesmann. I'm a co-
- 10 owner of a business in Ohio County, A & W Milling,
- 11 Incorporated. I've been here since 1954. I'm also a
- 12 Director of Vevay Deposit Bank, Vevay, for the past twenty-
- 13 five years. I've lived in Ohio County for forty-six years.
- 14 I've been on County Council for twenty-six years and I know
- 15 firsthand how hard it is to budget and how to balance a
- 16 budget in a small county like Ohio County.
- 17 Perception of Rising Sun, I've heard alot of talk
- 18 about it's too small. Well, it's not too small. We've got
- one of the best sites for riverboat gaming that there is up
- 20 and down the Ohio River. So we are - When this
- 21 project came up, the first thing we did is there's got to
- 22 be alot of planning done and we got together with the -
- 23 the city got together with the county and we formed a task
- 24 force to see what needed to be done and from the city's
- 25 vision plan, we decided some of the things that we had to

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- do, that we couldn't just go into this and not plan and
- 2 know what we was gonna do with the revenues that would
- 3 possibly come in from the riverboat gaming.
- 4 And when this thing came about, the assessed
- 5 valuation of Ohio County was nineteen to twenty million
- 6 dollars, with less than a million dollar general fund.
- 7 That's not much money to work with. Granted, we are
- 8 growing. It's a little larger now than it was then. But
- 9 I served on that task force and we looked at the vision
- 10 plans that the city had created, listened to the concerns
- 11 which the citizens had expressed in monthly community
- 12 meetings and looked down the road for what the city and
- 13 county would need immediately and long term, as well. The
- 14 needs we identified was many. But one, alot of cities and
- 15 counties can't work together, but I can tell you that Ohio
- 16 County and the City of Rising Sun work very well together.
- 17 So after looking at the vision plan, we decided that we
- 18 needed to use forty percent of the boarding fees, etcetera,
- 19 for infrastructure to build and expand and maintain. We
- 20 also recognized that without riverboat gaming some of these
- 21 things that we're talking about that we're going to have to
- 22 do because of it would have to be done anyway and you've
- 23 got a hard time doing it on the type of budget that Ohio
- 24 County has been operating on. But forty percent for
- 25 infrastructure, ten percent for schools, one percent for

- library, four percent to the city, county positions that
- 2 would be expanded or added, ten percent to law enforcement,
- 3 one percent for fire protection and life squad, and twenty-
- 4 three percent for contingency. I've been around a long
- 5 time to know that you just don't spend every buck that
- 6 comes in; you've got to prepare for contingencies. The
- 7 people that was on this task force was two from the county,
- 8 two from the city and one from the school. And we worked
- 9 this formulation out and think that it is one that will
- 10 work.
- Also, when you talk about law enforcing, we don't
- 12 have a jail in Ohio County. Someday we may be forced to
- 13 have another jail. We had one many years ago and it
- 14 wouldn't come up to state standards and so we closed it.
- As you can see, as I told you, I've got close
- 16 ties to Vevay, because I'm director of the bank and I've
- 17 got very close ties to Ohio County, because I'm a County
- 18 Councilman. I know alot of friends and relatives that live
- 19 in Dearborn County. I'm not here to tell you why you
- 20 shouldn't give it to Switzerland County or why you
- 21 shouldn't give it to Dearborn, but I'm here to tell you why
- 22 Ohio County deserves to get it.
- I'm not a gambler by nature. When I first heard
- 24 about the possibility of riverboats, I thought, no way, we
- 25 don't need that in Ohio County, but after I learned more

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- about it - learned more about what we are doing to get
- 2 ready for it and met some people involved, I changed my
- 3 mind entirely. I'm looking at this for the future and I
- 4 don't for a minute presume to be able to predict that
- 5 future, but I can tell you this about the future: we're
- 6 ready, working to get ready - we're already working to
- 7 get ready for this project in Ohio County. Here's what I
- 8 can tell you about Rising Sun and Ohio County: we care,
- 9 we're accountable, we're honest, we're hardworking, we're
- 10 ready for a riverboat project. Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. Any questions?
- 12 Okay. We have Tom McKay.
- 13 TOM McKAY: Good morning.
- 14 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Good morning.
- 15 TOM McKAY: My name is Tom McKay and first I'd
- 16 like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to come to
- 17 you with my comments in support of this issuance. I'm
- 18 currently the Chief of Police in Rising Sun. I was born a
- 19 resident of this county, grew up and went to school here.
- 20 I graduated from the school across the street in 1970,
- 21 which incidentally was about the time that Sheriff Johnson
- 22 was scouring this county looking for those contacts he had
- 23 to have. (Laughter) But I've been a resident of Ohio
- 24 County now for about ten years. I have a wife and two
- 25 sons. I was employed by the Rising Sun Police Department

- in 1987 and have been the Chief of Police since September
- 2 of '93.
- In asking for this opportunity today, I wrote the
- 4 Commission and asked to express my views from a law
- <sup>5</sup> enforcement perspective. Ohio County is the smallest in
- 6 the state, both in size and population, with an area of
- 7 about ninety square miles and a population, according to
- 8 the last census, of approximately fifty-four hundred
- 9 people.
- 10 At present, we have fifteen law enforcement
- 11 officers living in the county: our sheriff and four
- 12 deputies; myself and four police officers; two Indiana
- 13 State Troopers; and three Indiana Conservation Officers.
- 14 Both the Ohio County Sheriff's Department and the Rising
- 15 Sun Police Department have recently added an officer due to
- 16 the help of the crime bill and the money that's been added
- 17 through that and we're instituting community policing.
- On per capita basis, we have a law enforcement
- 19 officer for about every three hundred and sixty persons in
- 20 our county. From my perspective as the chief of police, I
- 21 believe that initial influx of traffic related problems
- 22 that might occur during the construction phase of any
- 23 proposed project that we would be ready and able to accept
- 24 this challenge, maybe a little bit better than some of the
- 25 neighboring communities. Dearborn County has a population

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- of nearly forty thousand people and approximately sixty law
- 2 enforcement officers for a per capita of about one to six
- 3 hundred and seventy persons. Switzerland County has a
- 4 population of about seven thousand persons and I believe
- 5 ten law enforcement officers for about a one to seven
- 6 hundred ratio. With the proposed project site for this
- 7 county being up the river and outside the town of Vevay,
- 8 this would limit the effective assistance abilities of the
- 9 Vevay Police Department.
- 10 Since January, I've been participating in joint
- 11 meetings held each month of a group of city and county
- 12 leaders and at these meetings we have talked at length
- 13 about issues which will have an impact upon each of our
- 14 respective departments, organizations and daily lives of
- our citizens in an attempt to be more prepared to meet the
- 16 challenges of the gaming project here.
- 17 As part of this project, myself and Chief Deputy
- 18 Rodney Rimstidt of the Ohio County Sheriff's Department
- 19 drove to Metropolis, Illinois, to see for ourselves what
- 20 changes we might expect - and Metropolis is a small
- 21 town, somewhat like Rising Sun, a little larger, but with
- 22 many of the same characteristics. While we were there, we
- 23 spoke with the Police Chief, the Sheriff of the county, the
- 24 Chief of Security for the gaming company, and spent several
- 25 hours riding with Metropolis police officers on routine

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- patrol. During this time on patrol, the only call we got
- 2 was a loud music call in an apartment complex. We were
- 3 assured by these enforcement officials that while they had
- 4 seen some increase in traffic related problems, criminal
- 5 activity had shown no marked increase. We saw no long
- 6 lines of traffic, no traffic jams, and, in general, a small
- 7 town peaceful atmosphere there.
- 8 A recent inhouse study of our Rising Sun Police
- 9 Department shows that we have a considerable amount of
- 10 routine patrol time, which we could use to commit to
- 11 solving any increase in traffic or criminal problems that
- 12 might occur. The criminal problems in the outlying areas
- 13 of the county being relatively low, and with nearly half
- 14 the population of the county living within the city of
- 15 Rising Sun, where the project would be located, we will be
- 16 better able to commit increased manpower to the project
- 17 area if the need arises.
- Rising Sun, Ohio County, has other public safety
- 19 agencies, namely fire, EMS and civil defense, which each
- 20 have many well trained, dedicated volunteers that give of
- 21 themselves on a daily basis in order to make Ohio County
- 22 and the City of Rising Sun a better place to live and to
- 23 raise their families.
- Our proposed site, undoubtedly the most beautiful
- 25 in the tri-county area, lends itself to the future

- development of other types of economic growth once a gaming
- 2 project forms the cornerstone that we can build on.
- Within the last two years, the Rising Sun Police
- 4 Department and the Ohio County Sheriff's Department have
- 5 taken steps to work together towards being prepared for the
- 6 future. One of these steps was putting both of our
- 7 departments into the same building where we'll work closer
- 8 together, so that we can meet the needs of the public. And
- 9 we have trained three men in child abuse investigations to
- 10 deal with domestic problems and we also have added a dual
- 11 purpose K-9 for drug interdiction work. I'm confident, as
- 12 well as is Sheriff Fancher, that we are prepared to meet
- 13 whatever challenges we may face as a result of the gaming
- 14 project in our county.
- I truly believe that Ohio County and the City of
- 16 Rising Sun have shown exemplary effort in pulling together
- 17 to plan for the future and I ask you, the Indiana Gaming
- 18 Commission, to reward our dedication by issuing a gaming
- 19 license to Ohio County. Thank you very much.
- 20 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you, Chief. What's the
- 21 population of Ohio County?
- MR. McKAY: About fifty-four hundred, according
- 23 to the last census.
- 24 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay.
- 25 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: I have a question,

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1	Chief. If, in fact, Ohio County doesn't receive
2	a license and the other two counties on the other
3	side of you do, is there any anticipated source
4	of revenue to increase the manpower within your
5	department to handle any additional problems,
6	even though this wouldn't be a riverboat county?
7	MR. McKAY: Not that I'm aware of at this time.
8	If there is, I haven't been made aware of it.
9	QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: But you would anticipate
10	additional manpower being necessary if the other
11	two counties received a riverboat license?
12	MR. McKAY: I believe it would be, yes.
13	QUESTION BY JACK THAR: Could I follow up on
14	that?
15	DON VOWELS: Yeah, go ahead.
16	QUESTION BY JACK THAR: If there was a riverboat
17	on each side of Ohio County, what would you
18	anticipate the impact on traffic in Ohio County
19	to be?
20	MR. McKAY: I think we'd have a traffic increase.
21	I think we might also have an increase in our
22	population, due to the fact that our cost of
23	living may be a little lower and, uh, I think
24	that that might show some increase in some
25	domestic related problems, due to the fact that

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1	you have those problems where people live, as
2	opposed to where they work. And basically, I
3	think we would see an increase in most areas over
4	a period of time.
5	QUESTION BY CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Has anybody done
6	any studies that would indicate what the
7	anticipated traffic increase for Ohio County
8	would be if they didn't receive a riverboat
9	license, but the counties on either side did?
10	MR. McKAY: I'm not sure if there are studies,
11	specifically, on that. I don't have that
12	information.
13	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Anything further?
14	Thank you, Chief. Donna Bailey?
15	DONNA BAILEY: Dear Members of the Gaming
16	Commission, I am not an employee of a public relations
17	firm, not have I had the training to speak publicly, but I
18	feel compelled to speak to you today on behalf of hundreds
19	of mothers and children of Ohio County. I earnestly beg
20	you not to give Rising Sun a gambling license, for in doing
21	so you will leave a devastation greatly felt by our
22	children.
23	We are the smallest county in Indiana, but we are
24	richer than most, for our children have the freedom to walk

four blocks to the local library with the security of

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- getting their safely. They can walk to the riverfront park
- 2 and skip stones in the Ohio River without the fear of being
- 3 abducted. Many of our school children, even first graders,
- 4 walk to school unescorted with the security that they'll
- 5 reach their destination without being harmed. Why?
- 6 Because we know just about everyone there. I tell you, the
- 7 freedom that our children have, the bigger cities can only
- 8 wish for. It cannot be replaced by what proceeds the
- 9 gambling company will generate.
- 10 The gambling company says that they will give our
- 11 poor school money to support education. I tell you now,
- 12 our children are already receiving the best of education.
- 13 Indianapolis schools, in 1993 and '94 year, grades nine
- 14 through twelve, had a dropout rate of forty-three percent.
- 15 Rising Sun, during that year, only had a four percent
- 16 dropout rate, with fifty-seven percent of our seniors
- 17 seeking a post-high school education. Why is our dropout
- 18 rate low and our average of students seeking a higher
- 19 education? Because they had a chance to grow up and study
- in a small school where the teachers are excellent and care
- 21 about them. What does our school lack? We have an
- 22 excellent sports program of basketball, track, baseball,
- 23 golf and we're adding soccer this fall. We have an
- 24 excellent band and music program, ranking right with the
- 25 bigger schools in Indiana. Our children are able to take

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- many educational field trips during the year. Our seniors
- 2 go on a senior trip, plus they have a prom. Alot of which
- 3 bigger cities have a problem doing.
- 4 The gambling company says it will bring jobs for
- 5 our children. Do we really want to teach our children to
- 6 prey upon the poor? The gambling people would like for us
- 7 to believe that only the rich gamble, but statistics show
- 8 that it is those people who can't fulfil the needs of their
- 9 family that seek the get guick rich scheme. Gambling only
- 10 deprives their families. The jobs that will be available
- 11 will be only service jobs. Those jobs are already easy to
- 12 obtain. I would like to encourage our children to reach a
- 13 higher level of employment, one that produces a product,
- 14 not one that takes from the poor and distributes it to the
- 15 more wealthy.
- They say they will give more money for our roads,
- 17 sewage and law enforcement. All of this will be used to
- 18 combat the problems the gambling boat will bring. We don't
- 19 need their added problems. Our children don't need to
- 20 inherit a quick fix for our needed state and local funding.
- 21 I am troublesome reminded of a song that was
- 22 popular in the seventies, it went like this: Mothers, tell
- 23 your children not to do what I have done, spend their lives
- 24 in ruin and misery in the House of the Rising Sun. Isn't
- 25 it ironic that that song was about a gambling house and you

- are to decide whether Rising Sun can have a gambling
- 2 license.
- Please, I beg you today, don't let our children
- 4 inherit a pair of dice.
- 5 I see that I have a few more seconds left and I
- 6 would like - the question was brought up about our
- 7 county zoning and city zoning, how strong it was. Even
- 8 though I feel like our county - they are doing the best
- 9 they can, they allowed an illegal billboard to stay up over
- 10 a year. That shows that we are not prepared county zoning
- ll or city zoning wide. I just feel like we can't even
- 12 anticipate the problems that we'll have. Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Okay. Thank you. Any
- 14 questions? Thank you very much. Okay. Mr.
- 15 Finley?
- 16 WILLIAM J. FINLEY: I'd like to thank the Gaming
- 17 Commission and fellow citizens of Indiana and Ohio County
- 18 for the opportunity to share some concerns and facts about
- 19 legalized gambling.
- In preparation for the possibility of riverboat
- 21 gambling in Ohio County, Sheriff Eldon Fancher shared with
- 22 the Ohio County FOCUS group several weeks ago that Ohio
- 23 County would add one deputy and there would be overlapping
- 24 shifts during peak times. Sheriff Fancher said that only
- 25 a few more DUI cases are anticipated. In addition, it has

- been reported that Rising Sun will add one officer to it's
- 2 police force. It is also a fact that Ohio County has no
- 3 jail and prisoners are transported to neighboring counties,
- 4 sometimes as far away as Scottsburg.
- 5 Here are some documented statistics on crime rate
- 6 increases associated with legalized gambling. The January,
- 7 1995, issue of the American Family Association Journal
- 8 reports that in Hancock County, Mississippi, the crime rate
- 9 increased dramatically since gambling opened in 1992.
- 10 Hancock County has a population of thirty-four thousand,
- ll roughly the size of Dearborn County, but it offers a valid
- 12 comparison of what might be in Ohio County. From the last
- 13 half of '93 to the first half of '94, crime increased as
- 14 follows in Hancock County, Mississippi. Stolen vehicles
- 15 went from thirteen to thirty-six, for a hundred and eighty-
- 16 eight percent increase. Assaults went from twenty to
- 17 fifty-seven, for a hundred and eighty-five percent
- 18 increase. Burglaries went from sixty-nine to one hundred
- 19 and thirty-seven, for a one hundred percent increase.
- 20 Thefts went from seventy-nine to two hundred and fifty-two,
- 21 for a two hundred and eighteen percent increase. Vandalism
- 22 went from forty to one sixteen, for a one hundred and
- 23 ninety percent increase. Child molestation went from three
- 24 to thirteen, for a three hundred fifty-three percent
- 25 increase. And last, suicide went from one to ten, for a

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- nine hundred percent increase.
- 2 Larger metropolitan areas in the United States
- 3 show similar crime rate increases. The May 23rd, 1994,
- 4 issue of the Christian Science Monitor reports that in
- 5 Atlantic City where planners and politicians thought that
- 6 there would be an economic renaissance with the
- 7 introduction of legalized gambling that the crime rate
- 8 tripled. The per capita crime rate went from fiftieth in
- 9 the nation before gambling to first after gambling.
- 10 Even the gambling mecca of Las Vegas has it's
- 11 problems. From 1960 to 1984, for those twenty-four years,
- 12 Las Vegas consistently ranked between first and fourth in
- 13 per capita crime rate.
- 14 Speaking generally, crime rates have increased
- 15 significantly in virtually every place where legalized
- 16 gambling, large or small, has been introduced.
- 17 Is Ohio County properly prepared adding one
- 18 deputy and one Rising Sun city police officer? I think
- 19 not. Could Ohio Countians be left partially or totally
- 20 unprotected while multiple prisoner transports take place?
- 21 I think it's a very realistic possibility. Even if Ohio
- 22 County crime rate defies statistics and there are only the
- 23 few DUI incidents that Sheriff Fancher anticipates, Route
- 24 56, our main transportation link to Dearborn County and
- 25 Cincinnati, which is already overcrowded, will become more

- 1 crowded with gambling traffic and the new DUIs. How long
- 2 will it be before a drunk driver takes the life of an Ohio
- 3 Countian? How many lives will be taken?
- In addition to crime increase, there are other
- 5 problems - sociological problems associated with
- 6 legalized gambling. One is compulsive gambling. Riverboat
- 7 officials themselves admit that where gambling is
- 8 introduced, four percent of the population will develop a
- 9 compulsive gambling problem. This amounts to two hundred
- 10 and sixteen Ohio Countians. The American Insurance
- 11 Institute estimates that forty percent of all white collar
- 12 crime is committed by those with serious gambling problems.
- 13 The Christian Science Monitor reports that the median debt
- 14 of the compulsive gambler ranged from fifty-three thousand
- 15 to ninety-three thousand dollars, and this excludes auto
- 16 loans and mortgages and other legitimate debt and doesn't
- 17 include gambling debt that's already paid off. In New
- 18 Jersey alone, compulsive gamblers are accumulating more
- 19 than five hundred million dollars of debt - in debt
- 20 yearly. Other studies show that compulsive gamblers have
- 21 a suicide rate of five to ten times of other Americans.
- 22 This is evidenced by the nine hundred percent increase in
- 23 Hancock County, Mississippi.
- Who will pay for all of this? Will children go
- 25 hungry while some of the two hundred and sixteen rob piggy

- $_{
  m l}$  banks and squander paychecks trying to strike it rich?
- Ohio County children might pay dearly. Even if the
- 3 anticipated economic benefits materialize, if only one
- 4 child goes hungry or if only one person dies on our roads
- 5 as a result of a gambler driving drunk, it's all not worth
- 6 it.
- 7 I encourage the Gaming Commission to carefully
- 8 consider this information when deciding if Ohio County will
- 9 be awarded a license. Thank you.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you.
- 11 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: The statistics that you
- 12 had were from what period of time to what period
- of time?
- 14 MR. FINLEY: Which statistic?
- 15 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: Hancock County.
- 16 MR. FINLEY: Hancock County was fromt he fall of
- 17 1993, the last half of '93, through the first
- half of '94 and gambling was instituted and
- 19 opened in 1992, in the fall of '92.
- 20 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: So the increase was
- MR. FINLEY: No, sir. The increase was the last
- 23 half of '93 to the first half of '94.
- 24 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: Do you have statistics
- 25 for prior to when the gaming began?

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- MR. FINLEY: No, I don't have those. Those
- 2 weren't available.
- 3 QUESTION BY DON VOWELS: And where were those
- 4 statistics - what was the source of those
- 5 statistics?
- 6 MR. FINLEY: It was the American Family
- 7 Association Journal. They're from Tupelo,
- 8 Mississippi.
- 9 DON VOWELS: Alright, that's all. Thanks.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Anything else? Thank you.
- 11 Matthew L. McKinley?
- 12 MATTHEW McKINLEY: Good afternoon - or good
- 13 morning. I am Matthew McKinley. I'm sixteen. I'm from
- 14 Rising Sun and I live at 703 Main Street and I was asked by
- 15 the FOCUS group to come and speak from a viewpoint of a
- 16 teenager.
- Being a teen, I look at Ohio County, a very poor
- 18 county, with a population of around five thousand, and
- 19 looked at my files at the Christian Outreach Free Store and
- 20 see some two hundred plus needing food, clothes, furniture,
- 21 etcetera, and I looked at the compulsive gambling
- 22 statistics. Ninety-six percent of an estimated ten million
- 23 compulsive gamblers started before reaching the legal
- 24 betting age. Who suffers over the years? Their families.
- 25 First of all, I think of compulsive gambling as

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a sickness, gambling being the drug that causes the 1 2 In the past year in Atlantic City, more teens sickness. 3 that were not even legally allowed to gamble were affected by this drug than the entire adult population there in 4 5 That scares me very much. I mean, look at these statistics and think, all these teens are gambling their 6 money away, and then think, they are this county's future 7 8 and how worse it will become if gambling boats are placed in Ohio County. As for adults, well, unless you're really 9 lucky, you usually don't gain much more than you throw 10 away. I also feel that many more families will be affected 11 12 greatly by this. When the vote was made in Ohio County, a very close friend came up to me crying and when I asked what was

13 14 wrong she told me that her parents had gotten in a huge 15 argument over gambling, whether it was right or wrong. She 16 17 told me that after the fight, they split up and they were probably going to get a divorce and at this time they are 18 Another friend said that their family get-19 separated. together ended with a huge fight and several walked out. 20 So gambling only adds to the problem of breaking up homes. 21 22 Do you want to break up families and, most of all, do you 23 think God wants you to break up families? There's a verse in the Bible that says: If you know the good you ought to 24

do and don't do it, it's a sin. If you know you shouldn't

- 1 do something and do it, it's also a sin. What would God
- 2 do in this situation?
- Finally, last summer I went to a Christian
- 4 convention and I decided to give my life to the vocational
- 5 ministry and about three months ago I decided what better
- 6 time to start and helped start a Bible study. We met two
- 7 times a week. After we got - We met every day for a
- 8 couple weeks and then we started meeting two times a week
- 9 and we had about twenty with us and that was great
- 10 considering coming to a school where God isn't supported to
- 11 it's potential. But as our Bible study looks at the issue
- 12 of riverboat gambling, we feel even though in the world the
- 13 majority may rule, in God's eyes it may not be the right
- 14 thing to do and who comes first, God or the majority? I
- 15 hope this temptation doesn't come for me and my friends'
- 16 sake. Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: Thank you. I guess we have
- 18 come to the end of our agenda. I want to thank
- 19 those people who came from Ohio County. As I
- 20 said about the people from Switzerland County,
- 21 it's been most informative and we're happy that
- 22 we were able to receive the information this
- 23 morning. So thank you all for coming.
- 24 appreciate it very much. And we will now adjourn
- until one o'clock, at which time we will start

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1	the agenda for the Dearborn County group. Thank
2	you all.
3	(Lunch break)
<b>4</b> 5	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: We'll come back to order and proceed with our agenda. Before we start in,
6	however, Mr. Thar, Executive Director, has the
7	late word from Indianapolis and from the
8	Legislature. Jack?
9	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THAR: Thank you. I need to
10	correct the records for my error this morning.
11	I'd indicated that Senate Bill 572, which is on
12	the Governor's desk, followed them by House Bill
13	1722, were the same on the cruising issue. The
14	last report I have is that they are in conflict
15	on the cruising issue, but I've been unable to
16	confirm that, so at this point in time, I'd
17	simply like the record to reflect that both bills
18	are on the Governor's desk, exactly what's in
19	1722, we're not sure right now. Thank you.
20	CHAIRMAN KINEMAN: As I said before, the
21	Legislature in their wisdom (laughter) We
22	are now going to take up from the presentations
23	from those persons who contacted us concerning
24	Dearborn County and I'd like to turn the gavel -
25	- and I don't physically have one over to